

A BOOK  
FOR  
MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN,

IN  
*Familiar Letters from a Quaker.*

FOR THE USE OF FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

BY  
H. HILDRETH.

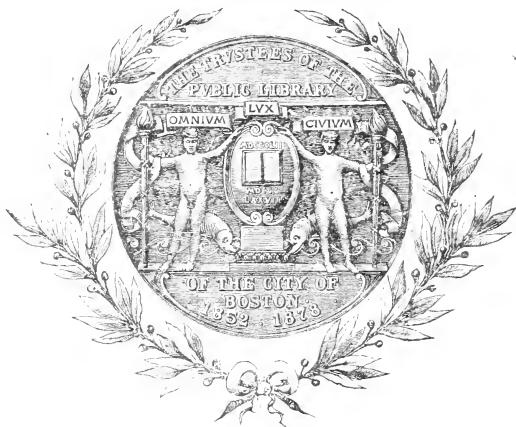
REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION.

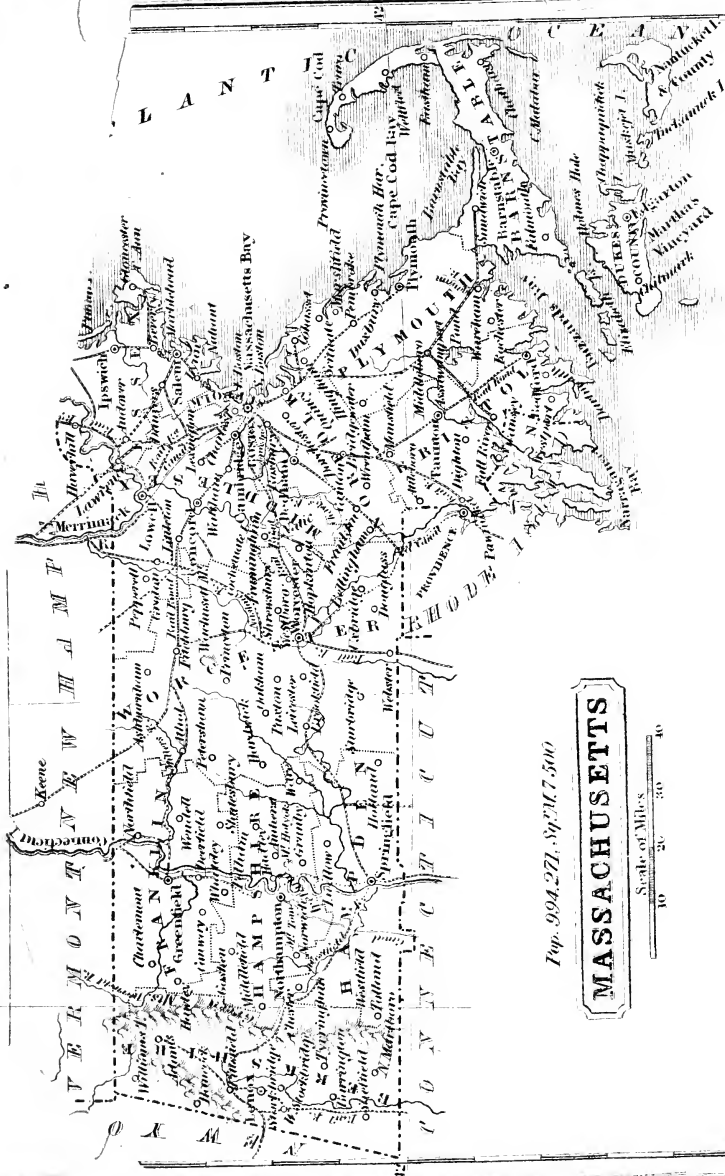
---

BOSTON:  
N. P. JEWETT AND COMPANY.  
CLEVELAND, OHIO: H. P. B. JEWETT.  
NEW YORK: S. C. GRANT, BUREAU AND COMPANY.  
1857.

4451

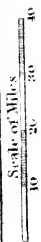
No. F64.H65





Pop. 994,271, Sept. 1, 1875

# MASSACHUSETTS





# A BOOK

FOR

MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN,

IN

*Familiar Letters from a Father.*

FOR THE USE OF FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

BY

H. HILDRETH.

REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION.

---

BOSTON:  
JOHN P. JEWETT AND COMPANY.  
1857.

F64  
.465

1963

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1856, by  
JOHN P. JEWETT AND COMPANY,  
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the District of Massachusetts.

---

LITHOTYPED BY THE AMERICAN STEREOTYPE COMPANY,  
PHOENIX BUILDING, BOSTON.

## CONTENTS.

LETTER	PAGE
I. Introductory . . . . .	7
II. What the State or Commonwealth is — Its inhabitants . . . . .	9
III. The Towns and Cities . . . . .	10
IV. Extent of Massachusetts — Boundaries — Use of the Map . . . . .	12
V. The Counties . . . . .	14
VI. The Seacoast . . . . .	15
VII. Islands . . . . .	18
VIII. Face of the Country — Mountains . . . . .	21
IX. Rivers . . . . .	24
X. Different kinds of land . . . . .	28
XI. Forest trees and fruit trees . . . . .	32
XII. Size, shape, and situation of the Counties . . . . .	35
XIII. Court-houses, Jails, and Courts . . . . .	36
XIV. Farming towns — Seaports — Commerce and Navigation . . . . .	39
XV. The Cod and Mackerel Fisheries — The Whale Fishery . . . . .	44
XVI. Manufacturing towns — Various employments . . . . .	47
XVII. Alms-houses — Schools — Churches . . . . .	50
XVIII. Town Meetings . . . . .	53
XIX. County of Essex. — Cities of Newburyport, Salem and Lynn — Ipswich — Nahant . . . . .	56
XX. “ Vicinity of Salem — Towns on Cape Ann — Haverhill — City of Lawrence . . . . .	60
XXI. “ Andover — Academy and Theological Seminary . . . . .	63
XXII. County of Middlesex. — City of Charlestown . . . . .	65
XXIII. “ City of Cambridge — Somerville . . . . .	69
XXIV. “ Other towns in Middlesex County — City of Lowell . . . . .	73

LETTER	PAGE
XXV.	Suffolk County. — Chelsea — City of Boston — Bridges — Gas-lights . . . . . 77
XXVI.	“ The streets — The Common and Public Garden — The Aqueduct . . . . . 81
XXVII.	“ Markets — Hospitals — Custom House — Harbors and Wharves . . . . . 85
XXVIII.	“ State House — General Court — How Laws are made . . . . . 91
XXIX.	Schools — Libraries — Museum . . . . . 94
XXX.	“ Other remarkable things in Boston . . . . . 99
XXXI.	Railroads in Massachusetts . . . . . 103
XXXII.	Norfolk County. — City of Roxbury and other towns . . . . . 108
XXXIII.	Plymouth County. — Plymouth and other towns . . . . . 110
XXXIV.	Barnstable County. — Barnstable — Provincetown — Sandwich . . . . . 113
XXXV.	Bristol County. — Cities of Taunton, Fall River, and New Bedford — Other towns . . . . . 116
XXXVI.	Eastern and Western Counties — Worcester County — City of Worcester — Other towns . . . . . 119
XXXVII.	Franklin County. — Greenfield and other towns . . . . . 125
XXXVIII.	Hampshire County. — Northampton and other towns . . . . . 127
XXXIX.	Hampden County. — City of Springfield and other towns . . . . . 128
XL.	Berkshire County. — Lenox, Pittsfield, and other towns . . . . . 131
XLI.	Our travels over the State — How different it was before the white people came . . . . . 133
XLII.	The Indians who used to live in Massachusetts . . . . . 135
XLIII.	Wild animals that used to be here . . . . . 138
XLIV.	Other wild animals . . . . . 140
XLV.	Indian wars — Settlement of white people in Massachusetts . . . . . 144
XLVI.	Intercourse between the white people and the Indians — Wars — The Indians destroyed or driven away — Colored people in Massachusetts . . . . . 147
XLVII.	More about the Indians . . . . . 150
XLVIII.	Conclusion — Advice . . . . . 152
XLIX.	Population of Towns . . . . . 156



## ADVERTISEMENT.

---

THE following little work, especially designed for the children of our Massachusetts primary schools, who are just beginning to read, first appeared near thirty years ago. It was, perhaps, the first American work of the sort; and, though it has had many imitators and rivals, there is room for doubt whether any of these surpass, or even equal it, in the object at which it aims. That object is, to provide for the children of Massachusetts a book, the style of which is suited to their apprehensions and tastes, at the same time that it contains a great deal of useful information, and incidentally answers a great number of questions which intelligent children are constantly in the habit of asking about things which they see and hear of. That the book is perfectly comprehensible by children, and that they read and study it with interest and pleasure, many teachers and parents who have used it can testify. At the same time it contains an account of Massachusetts, so full and instructive, that even parents and teachers may often consult it with advantage. After having been for some time out of print, a new and revised edition is now brought out, with many alterations and additions, so as to give a description of the State precisely as it now is. The book, thus revised and altered, is

respectfully dedicated and especially recommended to the teachers and pupils of the primary schools of Massachusetts ; though children also of other States, especially those of Massachusetts origin, or who live in the adjoining States, may use it with pleasure and advantage.

BOSTON, August 25, 1856.

# LETTERS ON MASSACHUSETTS.

---

## LETTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY.

DEAR CHILD, — As you are now able to read pretty well in plain reading, I propose to write a number of letters to you, concerning the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In these letters I shall tell you a great many things which you will be very glad to know ; and I have no doubt you will read my letters with great pleasure.

I have long thought that the children of Massachusetts ought to be the best children in the world, because they live in this good land, and have so many advantages ; and I trust you will be satisfied, by reading my letters, that I have thought right.

You have already been instructed concerning your duty, and can tell what conduct is proper almost as well as I can. You know, as well as any body, that the right way to be happy is to be good. You know, too, that those children ought to behave best who have the best means of knowing what their duty is. Now,

there are few children in the world who are so happily situated as the children of Massachusetts,—very few who have so much good instruction as they have. I hope, therefore, that you will be thankful to God for the many and great blessings which he has given you, and that you will always behave yourself in such a manner as to give your parents and friends great pleasure.

I shall take pains to make my letters pleasing and useful to children; and, as children do not like to read long letters, I shall write short ones, so that no child will have need to leave off in the middle of a letter because he is tired. But before I write again, I wish you to learn (if you have not already learned) to count a hundred. I wish you also to get some kind person to show you the length of an inch, of a foot, of a yard, of a rod. And I should be glad if the same kind person would endeavor to teach you concerning the length of a mile. Before I write again you must learn to answer the following questions. With very little assistance you may learn to answer them in a short time perfectly well.

#### AN AFFECTIONATE FATHER.

---

What town or city do you live in? Which way is north? Which way is south? Which way is east? Which way is west? Which way is northwest? southeast? southwest? northeast? How many inches in a foot? How many feet in a yard? How many yards in a rod? How many rods in a mile? What place, house, or other object, is a mile from the place where you are?

## LETTER II.

WHAT THE STATE OR COMMONWEALTH IS. — ITS INHABITANTS.

THE Commonwealth of Massachusetts is the same as the State of Massachusetts. A State, or Commonwealth, is the name given to a great many people living under the same government; that is, having the same rulers and obeying the same laws. Perhaps you do not understand this very well now, but, as you grow older, you will understand it better. The name of State is also given to the land or territory on which these people live. When we speak of the State of Massachusetts, we sometimes mean the people of Massachusetts, and sometimes the land of Massachusetts. By thinking a little, you can easily tell which is meant.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts contains much land, and a great many people. You know a hundred is a pretty large number, and a thousand is ten hundred. Now there are more than eleven hundred thousand people in Massachusetts. If you had twenty barrels full of cents, you would not have as many cents as there are men, women, and children in this Commonwealth. The men, women, and children, that belong to Massachusetts, are called the inhabitants or population of Massachusetts.

---

How many people in Massachusetts? Who are the inhabitants of Massachusetts?

## LETTER III.

### TOWNS AND CITIES.

THE land or territory of Massachusetts is divided into towns. Every inhabitant of Massachusetts belongs to some one or other of these towns. A town is very much like a little State or Commonwealth. It not only has land and inhabitants, but also rulers or officers of its own, chosen by the inhabitants. Some of the largest towns are also cities. The cities differ from the other towns only in their size, and in the kind of officers which they have. I shall tell you about the officers of the towns and cities in another letter.

You will see, from what I have said about cities, that the towns are not all of the same size. Some have much more land than others, and some have many more inhabitants than others. In some towns the houses touch each other, and the inhabitants are very numerous; in others the houses are few and scattered, and there are not near so many inhabitants. When we say a town is large or small, we commonly speak of the number of inhabitants in it. Some towns in Massachusetts do not contain more than three or four hundred inhabitants, but the greater part contain over a thousand. Some contain two thousand; others three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, or

ten thousand. Every town that contains twelve thousand inhabitants has the right to become a city; but some of the cities contain a great many more than twelve thousand. Boston has more than twelve times as many. There are in Massachusetts fourteen cities and more than three hundred towns. The number of cities and towns does not always remain the same. New cities are made out of the large towns, and new towns are made by dividing the old ones. Where a number of houses are built near each other, it is called a village. Every town has one village, and some towns have several. There are generally in every village one or more meeting-houses and school-houses, and a number of stores and shops; but some of these villages are much larger and handsomer than others.

I intend to give you, before I finish my letters, a particular account of the cities of Massachusetts, and of the principal towns and villages. Indeed, I shall take much pains to make you well acquainted with the Commonwealth. I hope, therefore, you will not fail to study very carefully all the questions you may find at the ends of my letters, till you can answer them with ease and propriety.

---

How many towns in the Commonwealth? How many cities? What is a city? How many inhabitants in some of the smallest towns? How many in others? What town or city lies north of the town you are in? What town or city lies south? What east? What west? How many inhabitants must a town have to be made into a city?

## LETTER IV.

### EXTENT OF MASSACHUSETTS. — BOUNDARIES. — USE OF THE MAP.

ALTHOUGH the towns and cities in Massachusetts are of different extent, yet all of them have considerable land. The one in which you are now living has a good deal of land in it. It is a considerable distance from one end of it to the other. Your mother, or sister, or some other kind friend, can tell you of a person who lives a good way from your house, and yet lives in the same town with you. It would take you a long time to walk from one end to the other of it.

Now I have said there are more than three hundred towns in Massachusetts, besides the cities. Massachusetts, therefore, must contain a very large quantity of land; and I suppose you would be glad to know how large it is. Massachusetts is about one hundred and thirty miles long from east to west, and about fifty miles wide from south to north. From the most eastern to the most western part of the State, it is nearly two hundred miles; and from its most southern to its most northern part, more than a hundred miles. I have got a picture of Massachusetts drawn on purpose for you to look at. This picture is called a map, and you can see what the



shape of Massachusetts is. You can see that its shape is very irregular, and that the eastern part is much the broadest. This part is about ninety miles broad. When you look at the map, you must be careful to turn your face toward the north, and hold the map so that the words *Vermont*, *New Hampshire*, may be toward the north also; then the top of the map will be north, the bottom south, the right hand east, the left hand west. With the aid of the map you will easily learn that Vermont and New Hampshire touch, or bound, Massachusetts on the north side; that Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the sea, bound it on the south side; that the sea bounds it on the east side; and, that New York bounds it on the west side. Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York are States. So you see there are other States besides Massachusetts. There are indeed many others, but I cannot speak of them at present.

---

How long is Massachusetts? How wide? What part of the map is north? What part south? What part is east? What part west? What States touch Massachusetts on the north side of it? What on the south side? What bounds it on the east side? What State lies on the west side?

## LETTER V.

### THE COUNTIES.

IF you have studied the map with proper attention, you are now quite able to answer all the questions at the end of my last letter; and are ready to go on and prepare for answering other questions.

I suppose you understand pretty well what is meant by towns and cities; but you have often heard persons speak of counties. A county is made up of a number of towns. The particular reasons why the Commonwealth is divided into counties will be given in another letter. In Massachusetts there are fourteen counties. If you attend to the map you will see how they are situated. They are painted of different colors so that you can easily distinguish them. The most western county is Berkshire, the most eastern is Barnstable, the most northern is Essex, the most southern is Nantucket. The county of Worcester is near the centre of the State. The names of the counties, beginning at the most eastern, are as follows: Barnstable, Nantucket, Duke's, Plymouth, Bristol, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, Berkshire.

---

What county do you live in? How many counties in Massachusetts? What are their names? Which county is the most eastern? Which the most western? Which the most northern? Which the most southern? Which counties are surrounded by water? What is an island?

## LETTER VI.

### THE SEACOAST.

THE sea which touches Massachusetts on a part of the south side, and washes all the east side, is called the Atlantic Ocean. It is a great many times larger than Massachusetts. It is three thousand miles broad. The country on the other side of it is called Europe.

That part of a country which is touched by the sea is called the seacoast. By looking at the map, you will see how crooked and irregular the seacoast of Massachusetts is.

On many parts of the seashore are high rocks, against which the waves break with great fury, especially in storms. In other places are high beaches of sand. The waves roll up very beautifully on these, and curling over break in white foam.

In order to understand what I am going to tell you about the seacoast, you must find on the map the names of all the places I shall mention.

A point of land running out into the sea is called a Cape. Massachusetts has three Capes. The most northerly is Cape Ann. This Cape is high and rocky, and has an abundance of granite. Cape Ann is in the county of Essex.

Southeast from Cape Ann, across the water, is Cape Cod. This Cape is very large and long. The whole of Barnstable county is situated upon it. It is in general low and sandy, and part of it is so barren that it produces little else but pine shrubs. The sand being loose is blown about by the wind, and the pine shrubs are sometimes killed by being buried in it. On Cape Cod, however, there are many farms, and smaller tracts made quite productive by cultivation. The people who live on Cape Cod are a very honest, good sort of people, and get a living mostly by fishing, and by other business connected with the sea.

The water between Cape Ann and Cape Cod is called Massachusetts Bay ; and the southerly part of Massachusetts Bay is called Cape Cod Bay. A Bay is a portion of the sea partly surrounded by land. There is a narrow piece of land which runs south from the south shore of Cape Cod, and which is called Cape Malabar. On or near the ends of these Capes there are light-houses. A light-house is a high round tower, built of wood, brick, or stone. The top of it is like a great lantern. It has glass windows all round, and in the middle there are several large lamps. These lamps are lighted every night that the sailors may see them, and not run their vessels on the shore in the dark. There are many light-houses in Massachusetts. There is one at the entrance of almost every harbor. A harbor is a part of the sea, partly surrounded by land, where vessels can lay at anchor, protected from storms and winds. In stormy weather vessels cannot anchor, except in some harbor, as otherwise the

violence of the waves would dash them on shore. Wherever there is a harbor, a town or village is generally found.

Buzzard's Bay is a long, narrow piece of water, which runs up between Barnstable county and Bristol and Plymouth counties. It is about thirty miles long and seven miles wide. It is in the most southerly part of Massachusetts, as you will see by looking on the map.

In my next letter I will tell you about the islands of Massachusetts. But, before I write again, you must be able to answer all the questions I am going to ask.

---

What is a Cape ? How many Capes has Massachusetts ? What are their names ? Which of them is the most northerly ? Which is the most southerly ? What is a Bay ? Between what Capes is Massachusetts Bay ? Where is Cape Cod Bay ? Where is Buzzard's Bay ? What is a Harbor ?

## LETTER VII.

### ISLANDS.

AN island, you know, is a piece of land surrounded by water. Along the coast of Massachusetts are many islands. The principal islands of Massachusetts are Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, the Elizabeth Islands, and Plum Island.

Nantucket is a county of itself. It is about twenty miles from the main land, and is fifteen miles long, and eleven broad in the widest place. The county of Nantucket has only one town, and this is also called Nantucket. The island, county, and town all have the same name. The land is generally sandy and poor, but in some spots it is quite good. There are no trees on the island, except a few which have been set out for ornament. The climate of the island is milder than that of the neighboring continent. Continent means the main land. The people who live on the island use the land principally for pasture; but they do not attend much to farming. They are almost all seamen. They carry on the whale fishery, which I shall describe to you in one of my other letters.

They make a great many spermaceti candles at Nantucket. Spermaceti candles are very white and hard, and burn with a bright light; they are made of the brains of

the spermaceti whale. Nantucket is one hundred miles southeast from Boston. It communicates every day with the main land by means of a steamboat.

Martha's Vineyard, the Elizabeth Islands, and two other small islands, called Chippaquiddick and Noman's land, make up Duke's county. Chippaquiddick lies east of Martha's Vineyard, and is separated from it by a narrow channel. Noman's land is near the southwest corner of the Vineyard. Duke's county has three towns, Edgartown, Tisbury, and Chilmark; but neither of them is large. The whole county contains less than five thousand inhabitants. Martha's Vineyard is about nineteen miles long, and in the broadest place ten miles wide. The land of this island is mostly low and level, some of it is fertile, but the greater part is poor. The trees on the island are small. On the north side of Martha's Vineyard, in the town of Tisbury, is a fine harbor called Holmes' Hole. A great many vessels come into Holmes' Hole, to wait there for a fair wind to pass Cape Cod.

The Elizabeth Islands are northwest of Martha's Vineyard. You can find them on the map. There are about sixteen of them, but they are all small. I would tell you their names, but they are so hard I am afraid you would not remember them.

Plum Island is in the north part of the State. It belongs to Essex county. It is eleven miles long, and one broad. On the side toward the land there is some salt marsh; but the rest of the island, except at the south end, is little else but heaps of sand. These heaps of sand are covered with bushes, which bear a sort of plum called

the beach plum. When these plums are ripe, many people go to the island to gather them. Plum Island is joined to the land by a bridge. There is a tavern on it; and at the south end, where the land is pretty good, a house or two. On the north end are two light-houses.

Besides the islands which I have mentioned, there are a great many other small islands scattered along the coast of Massachusetts. Of the islands in Boston harbor I shall speak in another letter.

---

How large is the island of Nantucket? What is said of it? What is the business of the inhabitants? How many towns in Duke's county? What is said of Martha's Vineyard? What is said of Holmes' Hole? Where are the Elizabeth Islands? How many are there? Are they large or small? How many people in Duke's county? What is said of Plum Island?



## LETTER VIII.

### FACE OF THE COUNTRY. — MOUNTAINS.

THE eastern part of Massachusetts, where it comes near the sea, is generally pretty smooth and level. The hills are not steep and sharp, but most of them round and swelling. This, however, is not the case with the Blue Hills in Milton, about ten miles south from Boston, which are the highest lands in this part of the State. They can be seen for more than thirty miles, and serve as a landmark to ships approaching Boston harbor. In the southeastern part of the State, the counties of Bristol, Plymouth, and Barnstable are flat. But Worcester county, and all the counties west of it, are hilly, and have some pretty high mountains. Berkshire county is more hilly than the rest, and has many mountains.

I shall not mention all the mountains in Massachusetts, but I will tell you something about the most important ones.

Wachusett mountain is in Princeton, in the county of Worcester, near the middle of the State. The top of it is more than a third of a mile up in the air. A mountain as high as that is considered a pretty high mountain. This mountain can be plainly seen from the tops of the hills about Boston, which is fifty miles distant.

From the top of it you can see over nearly the whole State. Around the bottom of Wachusett, and some way up the sides of it, the land is good pasturage, and the trees, where they have not been cut off, are large. But, as you go up the mountain, the trees become smaller and smaller, till they dwindle into small shrubs or bushes. The top of the mountain is a ledge of rocks.

Trees become smaller and smaller as you go up a mountain, because the air becomes colder and colder. The higher a mountain is, the colder it is on the top of it; and some mountains are so high that the snow remains on their tops all the summer. But there are no such mountains in Massachusetts. Wachusett is the highest of an irregular chain of hills that extends through Worcester county, north and south.

Mount Holyoke and Mount Tom are in the county of Hampshire. Mount Holyoke is in Hadley, on the east side of Connecticut river, five miles distant from Mount Tom, which is in Northampton, on the west side of the river. Mount Tom is the highest, but neither of them is half as high as Wachusett. They are both long ridges, with a number of steep humps, extending back from the Connecticut, which seems to cut them in two. They have trees growing upon them all the way up to their tops. From the top of Mount Holyoke is a delightful prospect. One can see a great way up and down Connecticut river. The rich meadows, and green woods, and pleasant towns, afford a very beautiful sight. There is a road to the top of Mount Holyoke, and a great many people go up to enjoy the prospect. Mount Toby is in

Franklin county, in the towns of Sunderland and Leverett; it is about as high as Mount Holyoke.

The most mountainous part of the State is the western part. Berkshire county, in this part of the State, is crossed north and south by a double chain of mountains, between which is a valley through which flows the Housatonic river. These Berkshire mountains are a part of the Green mountain chain of Vermont. The most western of the two Berkshire chains runs along the boundary between Massachusetts and New York, and is sometimes called the Taconic or Tuglkanic mountains. The highest summit of these Berkshire mountains, and the highest in Massachusetts, is Saddle mountain, in the town of Adams, in the northwest corner of the State. It has two peaks or high points, and is shaped like a saddle. It is considerably more than half a mile high. There is another mountain half a mile high in the southwest corner of the State, in the town of Mount Washington. It is called Bald mountain, and sometimes Mount Washington, and is the highest of the Taconic mountains. The prospect from the top of this mountain is very fine. Near by is Bashpish fall, formed by a stream of water rushing down through a deep chasm in the rocks. It is one of the most remarkable sights in Massachusetts, and I should like very much to have you see it.

---

What is said concerning the eastern part of the State? Concerning the counties of Bristol, Plymouth, and Barnstable? Concerning the western counties? Concerning Berkshire? How high is Wachusett, and what is said of it? What is said of Mount Holyoke? Mount Tom? Mount Toby? Of the Berkshire mountains? Which is the highest land in Massachusetts? What mountain in the southwest corner of the State? What remarkable sight near it?

## LETTER IX.

### RIVERS.

BEFORE I tell you about the rivers of Massachusetts, I suppose you would be glad to know where the water in the rivers comes from. When it rains, the waters run down the hills and mountains, and make little brooks. Very often these little brooks run into hollow places between hills, and make ponds or lakes. A pond is a small lake. There are a great many ponds in Massachusetts, but none very large. From most of these ponds the water runs out and makes a brook or small river. Sometimes a great many brooks run together and make a river. Many small rivers running into the same river make a great river. Great rivers generally run into the sea, and grow wider and deeper, by having more rivers run into them, till they reach the sea. The place where a river runs into another river, or into the sea, is called the mouth of the river. The other end is called the head of the river. The rivers which run into another river are called its branches. The mouths of large rivers are generally wide, and the water so deep that ships can sail up a number of miles.

There are two large rivers in Massachusetts, the Connecticut and the Merrimack; but the Connecticut is

much larger than the Merrimack. Neither of these rivers begins in Massachusetts. The head of the Connecticut is in the northern part of New Hampshire, a State which, you remember, lies on the north side of Massachusetts. The Connecticut runs nearly two hundred miles between New Hampshire and Vermont, before it comes into Massachusetts. You will see, by the map, that it runs through the western part of Massachusetts. It comes first into Franklin county. When it enters the State it is a large and beautiful river about eighty rods wide. After running through Massachusetts, it passes into the State of Connecticut, and, running about eighty miles farther, it reaches the sea. You may see by the map that it runs to the south; but there are a great many crooks and bends in it, as there are in all rivers. The whole length of the Connecticut is about four hundred miles, but only a small part of this is in Massachusetts. Much of the land on the banks of this river is very rich, and many of the towns are very pleasant and flourishing. As the Connecticut runs along through Massachusetts, several rivers run into it. In Franklin county, Deerfield river runs into it from the west, and Miller's river from the east. In Hampden county, Westfield river runs into it from the west, and the Chicopee river from the east. You will find these rivers on the map. Many other rivers run into the Connecticut besides those I have mentioned.

The other large river in Massachusetts is the Merrimack. This river likewise begins in New Hampshire among the White mountains. It first comes into Middle-

sex county, and then runs along through Essex county, till it reaches the sea. Soon after the Merrimack comes into Massachusetts, it turns and runs northeast. It is a fine wide river, but its mouth is narrow and is very much barred with sand. The mouth of a river is said to be barred with sand, when a ridge of sand lies across it, and comes so near the top of the water as to make it difficult for vessels to pass over. Only vessels of middling size can enter the Merrimack. In stormy weather it is sometimes difficult for vessels to get in the Merrimack at all, but when they have entered it they can sail up eighteen or twenty miles. Nashua river and Concord river run into the Merrimack.

There are many other rivers in Massachusetts, but I will mention only three more. Charles river, which runs into Massachusetts Bay; Taunton river in Bristol county, which runs south into a bay called Narragansett Bay; and the Housatonic in Berkshire county, which runs south through the State of Connecticut into the sea. This is a fine river, and has much rich land on its banks. All these rivers you will find on the map, with a number of others besides. Long flat boats used to pass up and down the Connecticut and the Merrimack to a great distance on the — Connecticut nearly three hundred miles; but, since the railroads were built, these boats are little used. Large rafts of timber are, however, still floated down these rivers.

I shall now tell you of a way in which the rivers of Massachusetts, both the large and the small ones, are of the greatest use and importance. As Massachusetts is

generally very hilly, there are in all these rivers a number of water-falls. The water rushes over these falls with great force, and can be made to turn water-wheels, so as to give motion to mills and machinery. The falls on the mill-streams are made to carry saw-mills and grist-mills, to saw logs into boards, and to grind grain into meal. The water-falls on the larger rivers are employed to turn the great water-wheels which give motion to the machinery of cotton, woollen, iron, and other large factories. In this way the water-falls of Massachusetts are made to do an immense deal of work. All the great manufacturing towns are situated at the falls of the rivers. The higher the falls, and the larger the river, the more work they can be made to do. This is what is called water-power.

---

What do great rivers run into? What is the lower end of a river called? What is the upper end called? What two large rivers in Massachusetts? Which is the largest? Where is the head of Connecticut river? What part of Massachusetts does it pass through? How wide is it? How long is it? What two rivers in Franklin county run into it? What two in Hampden county? Where does the Merrimack begin? What counties does it run through? Which way does it run after it comes into Massachusetts? Into what do Nashua and Concord rivers run? Into what does Charles river run? Into what does Taunton river run? Where is the Housatonic? To what use are the water-falls put?

## LETTER X.

### DIFFERENT KINDS OF LAND.

I SUPPOSE you would like to know something about the different kinds of land in Massachusetts. Some land is very rich, and bears a great deal of hay, corn, potatoes, or whatever the owner plants or sows; and some land is so poor it will bear scarcely anything. That part of Massachusetts which is near the sea, I have already told you, is in general pretty level and smooth. In some places, however, as on Cape Ann, the seacoast is very rough and rocky. Much of the land near the sea is good for grass and grain, but a good deal of it is very sandy. Sandy land is generally poor.

Along the seashore there is a sort of land called salt marsh. A great many acres of it often lie together; it is perfectly flat and smooth, and is so low that the salt water often flows over it. This land is never ploughed, but it bears a great deal of grass, which the farmers mow down and make into hay. The grass is so often wet by the salt water that the hay made of it has a salt taste.

A considerable distance back from the sea the country is rougher, but the land is generally more fertile than the land nearer the sea. When land lies in large round swells, as they are called, the tops and sides of the swells are



commonly warm and good land ; while the land in the valleys between is often cold and poor. But when a considerable river runs through a valley, the land on one or both sides of it is often of the very best kind. This land is called interval or meadow, and there is a good deal of it on the banks of rivers in Massachusetts. Nearly all the rivers have more or less of it. On the banks of the Connecticut there are many thousands of acres. It bears a great deal of grass and grain, and is very easy to plough and hoe. There is not a stone in it. It is a delightful sight to see many acres of this meadow lying together. It is level and smooth, and in the summer is covered with grass and corn, and other growth, while here and there stands a great elm or other beautiful tree, in the field or beside the river. In the early spring it is sometimes almost covered over by the high water of the river, and appears like a great lake.

There is another kind of meadow very different from this interval land. It is found upon brooks and in low places, and bears an inferior kind of grass, but is so moist that it is seldom ploughed.

There is another kind of land still different, which is sometimes called meadow, but which is properly called swamp. It is very wet and muddy, and bears very coarse, poor grass. This land, however, may be made very good by digging ditches in it and letting the water drain out. It will then bear good grass.

In many wet and low places there is a very curious sort of meadow, called peat meadow. The grass that grows on it is not worth much, but the soil of the mea-

dow is a sort of substance called peat, which, when dried, is good to burn. It is cut up in small pieces, and placed in the sun to dry. It is black, and appears to be a great many small roots twisted together, the spaces between them being filled up with black earth. When it is dry it burns very well. In many places a great deal of it is used for fuel. Some of these meadows produce a great many cranberries.

The hills are often so steep and rocky that they cannot be ploughed. But they bear a great deal of fine, short, sweet grass, which makes very good food for sheep and cows. This kind of land is called pasture land. Land that is ploughed is called tillage land. But in some places the hills are very steep, and so rocky that the land is not fit even for pasture. However, they often bear a great deal of wood and timber. Many of the rough and swampy pastures, which are good for little else, produce a great many berries of various kinds, such as raspberries, blackberries, and whortleberries.

There are all sorts of land, from very good to very poor, in Massachusetts; but there is little so poor that it cannot be made good by working upon it. It is true, where the land is poor or rocky the people have to work hard for a living. But I have observed, and you, if you live to grow up, may observe the same, that those who are obliged to work hard for a living are commonly much better, as well as much happier, than those who live without working at all. Idleness, vice, and unhappiness, are very apt to be together. Idle children, you know, are always in mischief; and

## LETTER X.

when they have done mischief they are often punished, and then they are unhappy. But children that love to be doing what is right and useful, are commonly very happy.

---

What sort of land is near the sea? What is said of salt marshes? What is said of sandy land? What sort of land is found on large swells? What sort in the valleys? What if a river runs through a valley? On what river is there much rich meadow? How may swampy land be made good? What is peat good for? What are the hills that cannot be ploughed good for? What grows on the steepest and rockiest hills?

## LETTER XI.

### FOREST TREES AND FRUIT TREES.

IN this letter I will tell you something about the different kinds of trees that grow in Massachusetts, and what use is made of them. There are a great many kinds of trees, but I shall mention only a few of the most useful. The best kind of timber is the oak. The oak is a stout, thick tree, with dark green leaves. It bears nuts called acorns. There are several kinds of oak, as white oak, red oak, yellow oak, and some others; but the white oak is much the most valuable. It is very tough and strong, and is used in building ships, and for other purposes for which very strong timber is wanted. Oak wood is easily split into thin pieces, and great use is made of it by coopers in manufacturing hogsheads, barrels, and other vessels of like kind. It is excellent fuel; and the bark of the oak is much used by tanners in making the nicest and best leather. Next to the oak the pine is the most useful. There is white pine and pitch pine. The white pine often grows very tall and straight, without a knot or a limb within forty or fifty feet of the ground. It is a beautiful tree, and is green all the year. It is used for the masts of ships. A great many pine trees are sawed into joistboards and planks,

or split into clapboards and shingles, or hewn into beams, and used for building houses, and barns, and stores, and bridges. Pine wood is full of pitch or turpentine, and takes fire very easily. The pitch is a sort of gum which runs out of the tree. Tar and rosin are made of it. The pitch pine grows in poor, sandy soils. It is valuable for fuel. The chestnut tree bears a very good nut. The wood of this tree is often split into long straight pieces called rails, which farmers use in making fences. The walnut tree also bears a very good nut. The wood of this tree is the very best kind of fuel, and for many uses it is a valuable timber. It is used for axe-handles; and, being very tough, it is easily bent into bows and hoops. The hemlock is a large tree which is green all the year round. Trees that are green all the year are called evergreens. The hemlock is not good fuel, though it is good timber for many uses; a great deal of hemlock bark is used by tanners in making leather.

There are several kinds of maple trees; the rock maple, the red maple, and the white maple. The white maple commonly grows on low, swampy ground. The maple is good wood to burn, and cabinet-makers often use it for chairs, tables, and bedsteads. From the sap of the rock maple a most agreeable sugar is made. The best wood for tables is the wild cherry tree, which grows large, and can be sawed into fine wide boards. The elm is a beautiful tree, and is planted on the sides of streets, and before houses, for shade and ornament. The wood of the elm is very tough, and is much used for the hubs of carriage-wheels, and for other purposes. The ash tree

affords a valuable timber for coaches, chaises, and other carriages.

All the trees which I have been describing are called forest trees; but apple trees, plum trees, pear trees, peach trees, and others which are planted in gardens and orchards, are called fruit trees. These trees do not grow wild in the woods. They were brought over by the white people who first settled the country. Every good farmer in Massachusetts has an orchard of apple trees. In the month of May, when the apple tree blooms, the white blossoms covering all the trees make a beautiful appearance. It is also very pleasant in the autumn, when the fruit is ripe, to see the trees hanging full of apples. The best of the apples are gathered and carried to market, or put into barrels to be kept till winter. The women cut a great many apples into quarters, string them upon twine, and hang them up in the sun to dry. Dried apples are used for pies.

---

What kind of oak is the best? What is oak timber used for? Oak bark? What are the two kinds of pine? For what is the white pine used? What is pitch pine used for? What is said of the chestnut? Of the walnut? What kind of trees are called evergreens? For what is hemlock bark used? On what kind of ground does the white maple grow? What is maple timber used for? What is the wild cherry good for? What trees are called fruit trees?

## LETTER XII.

### SIZE, SHAPE, AND SITUATION OF THE COUNTIES.

You see, by the map, that the counties in Massachusetts differ very much from each other in size and shape. Barnstable county has a very curious shape. It looks somewhat like a man's arm crooked at the elbow, and it runs out a great way into the sea. Nantucket county is made up of Nantucket Island, and several other small islands near it. Duke's county is made up of the island called Martha's Vineyard, and of several other small islands. Suffolk county contains less land than any other county in the State. You might walk from one end of it to the other in a day or less. There are only four towns in it, but there are a great many people, and it is one of the principal counties in the State. The county which has the most land in it is Worcester county. I shall give you a particular account of the principal towns and cities in all the counties before I finish writing to you; but I do not like to crowd your memory with too many things at once. I will, therefore, conclude this letter with a number of questions, which you must prepare yourself to answer by studying the map.

---

Which three counties in Massachusetts have the least land? Which of these three has the least land? Which county in the State has the most land?

## LETTER XIII.

### COURT HOUSES, JAILS, AND COURTS.

I SUPPOSE it took you some time to learn how to answer all the questions in my last letter; but, as good children love to please their parents and teachers, and especially as they love to learn, I hope you did not feel disposed to complain of the number of questions. If, however, you find the questions at the end of any letter so many or so hard that you cannot conveniently answer them all at one lesson, you may answer a part of them, and leave the rest for another time. In this letter I shall tell you some other things about the counties, which I wish you to remember.

The Commonwealth is divided into counties for convenience in holding courts. In every county there is at least one town or city, called the shire-town, having a

---

In what part of the State does it lie? How many counties are west of Worcester county? How many east? How many south and east of Norfolk? Name them. What counties extend across the State? What counties lie between Worcester and Berkshire? What counties touch Worcester county on the east? What county touches Middlesex on the southeast? What on the east? What on the northeast? What counties touch Norfolk on the southeast side? On which side of Plymouth county is the county of Bristol? What county touches Plymouth county on the southeast? How many counties in Massachusetts touch the sea? Which are they? What is said of Barnstable county? What counties are islands?



jail, a house of correction, and a court house. A jail is a strong building, having a number of small rooms, in which persons who are supposed to be very wicked are confined. If a person is accused of some great crime against the law of the Commonwealth, then he is taken and locked up in jail. He is kept there till the judge comes to try him; that is, to see whether he is guilty or not. The judge goes to the court house, and other persons go with him, and he holds what is called a court. Then the person locked up in jail is taken out, and brought to the court house to be tried by the judge, and twelve other persons called the jury, who have been selected beforehand from among the inhabitants of the county. If he is found to be guilty of the crime of which he is accused, then he is condemned to be punished. The most common punishment is to be sent to the State prison for a longer or shorter period, according to the nature of the crime of which a person is found guilty. Persons found guilty of murder, and of some other crimes, are hanged.

The house of correction is for idle, drunken, quarrelsome, and disorderly persons. Such persons are taken to the house of correction and made to work. They are guarded in the daytime, and at night they are confined. Naughty boys who throw stones, break windows, fight, steal, or do other mischief, are sometimes carried to the house of correction. If you should ever conduct yourself in such a manner as to be taken and carried away and locked up in the house of correction, you would make all your friends very unhappy, and besides this you would

be very unhappy yourself. My prayer is, that you may always remember and believe that there is no real happiness in being wicked. We always feel best when we feel that we have behaved best. Does it not make you very unhappy to feel that you have behaved badly?

Before I finish this letter, I must tell you some other things that the courts do. They settle all disputes that arise about money and such things; and, if a man will not pay his debts, they send a person called a sheriff to take his property and sell it, and pay over the money to the person whom he owes.

---

What is the town called in which the jail is? What is the house of correction for? What is done at the court house? When a person is found guilty, how is he punished? What other things do the courts do?

## LETTER XIV.

### FARMING TOWNS, SEAPORTS, COMMERCE, AND NAVIGATION.

You have already learned that Massachusetts is divided into fourteen counties ; and I suppose, by studying the map, you have obtained a pretty good knowledge of the situation of each of them. I shall now go on to tell you a great many things about the towns and cities ; and I have no doubt you will be pleased with what I shall say.

The larger part of the towns of Massachusetts are divided into lots and farms, and most of the people who live in them are farmers. These towns are called farming towns. The farmers, you know, live by cultivating the ground. They raise grass, corn, rye, oats, wheat, and barley ; flax, potatoes, turnips, hops, broomcorn, pumpkins, apples, and many other things. They keep cows, oxen, horses, sheep, and hogs. They make butter and cheese, and raise hens, and geese, and turkeys. When they have more things than they want, they sell them and buy tea, coffee, sugar, clothing, and other things which they cannot raise on their farms.

A large part of the inhabitants of Massachusetts are farmers ; but there are many people who have no land, and so have to find some other way of getting a living.

Cities or towns which are so situated that vessels can

sail to and from them, are called seaports. There is a considerable number of such seaports in Massachusetts. The people who live in the seaports are employed in a great variety of business ; but the most important business is connected with the sea. Many persons in these towns own vessels, and are engaged in loading them with various articles for the purpose of sending them to sea. These towns have wharves at which the vessels load and unload. A wharf is a place built out into deep water, sometimes of stone and earth, and sometimes of planks fastened to trunks of trees called piles driven into the mud. The men who go in the vessels are called sailors, and the person who has the particular care of any vessel is called the master or captain. Vessels are sent to sea with their cargoes, or loads, in order that they may sail over the wide ocean to distant parts of the world. They have sails made of strong, coarse cloth ; and the wind blows them across the water. They are sent to a great many different countries. Their cargoes are sold, and the price laid out for other things to bring home. Among the articles brought from distant countries in vessels are sugar, tea, coffee, molasses ; silk, fine linen, cotton and woollen cloths, calicoes ; hemp, iron, crockery ware ; cinnamon, allspice, cloves, pepper, and a great many other things. Pepper is brought from a large island, ten thousand miles off. Tea is brought from a still greater distance. Many kinds of fruit are likewise brought from distant countries in vessels ; such as lemons, oranges, figs, raisins, and pineapples. These fruits all grow in countries where the winter is not so cold as in Massachu-

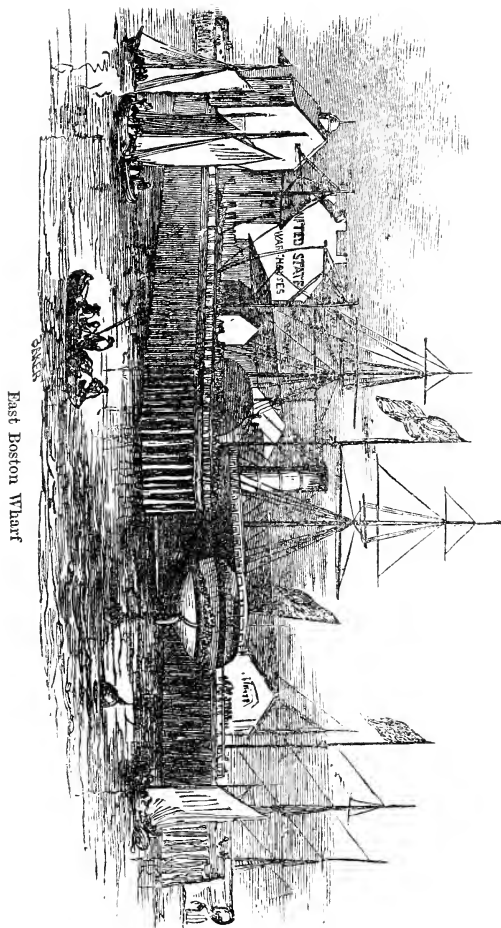
setts, or where there is no winter at all. But then we have apples, pears, peaches, and plums, which do not grow where lemons and oranges are found.

The vessels that sail on the ocean are of various sizes and kinds. Some have three masts, and are called ships : others have two masts, and are called brigs. But a great many vessels with two masts are called schooners. Vessels with one mast are called sloops. Besides these vessels, there is another very curious kind of vessel, which is carried along through the water by means of wheels set in motion by steam. This vessel is called a steamer. Steamers intended to sail on the ocean have masts and sails, like the one in the picture below.

When the weather is fine and the water smooth, it is delightful to stand upon the seashore and see the vessels sailing by. But the weather is not always fine, nor is the sea always smooth. Sometimes the wind blows very hard, and the waves roll as high as the tallest tree. Sometimes the wind splits the sails of the vessels all to rags, and breaks off the masts, or turns the vessels over, so that they are filled with water and sink. And sometimes the wind and waves drive the vessels upon rocks in the sea, or upon the shore, and dash them to pieces. Many poor sailors lose their lives by being at sea, when the wind blows hard.

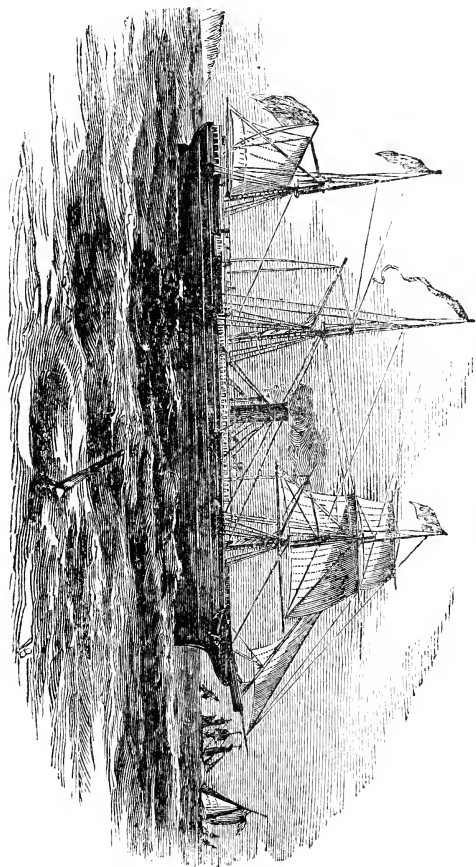
---

What is said of the farming towns ? What are seaports ? What is the most important business in seaports ? What vessels are called ships ? Brigs and schooners ? Sloops ? Mention a number of articles that are brought from distant countries in vessels.



East Boston Wharf

Steamer S S Lewis



## LETTER XV.

### THE COD AND MACKEREL FISHERIES. — THE WHALE FISHERY.

A GREAT many people belonging to seaport towns get their living by fishing. The sea in some places is full of fishes, and there are a great many sorts, some large and some small. Some of these fishes, such as the alewife, a shiny flat fish about a foot long, come into the rivers in the spring, and are caught in great numbers in nets. Others never leave the sea. Among these is the halibut, a great flat fish that swims on its broad side, and has both its eyes close together on the top of its head. The halibut is so large and strong that it often takes several men to pull it into the boat. It is taken with hook and line, and is excellent to eat. The herring is a little, bright, shining fish, which is caught in nets. But the fishes of which the greatest quantities are taken are the cod and the mackerel. The cod is a pretty large fish, commonly about a yard long, sometimes longer and sometimes shorter. The fishermen go after the cod in small vessels. They catch the cod with hooks and lines, sometimes having clams for bait and sometimes little fishes. The heads of the cod are cut off, and the fishes split open and salted. They are brought home and spread in the sun to dry. Thus is made what we call salt fish, which you have often



eaten for dinner. The mackerel, which is also caught with hook and line, is much smaller and much handsomer than the cod. It is about a foot long, and streaked with blue and white. The mackerel are not dried, but salted down in barrels or kegs.

There is another fish called the whale, and he is the largest fish that swims in the sea. Indeed, he is the largest living creature known in the world ; for there is no animal on the land so large as the whale. The whale is not good for food, but is taken for the sake of his oil. Under his skin is a thick layer of fat something like pork, and when it is cut off and tried over the fire a great deal of oil runs out of it. The men who catch the whales sail a great way off upon the ocean in large ships, and when they come where the whales live they see them playing upon the water.

When the men see a whale, they get out of their ship into their boats and row towards him. One man stands at the head of the boat, holding in his hand a sharp iron spear, called a harpoon ; and, when the boat comes close to the whale, the man throws the harpoon at him with all his might. The harpoon cuts very deep into the soft flesh of the whale, and hurts him very much ; so he dives down into the water to get away ; but he is prevented by a long rope which is fastened at one end to the harpoon, and at the other end to the boat. The poor whale does not remain long under water ; for whales breathe, as well as men, and cannot live long without coming to the top of the water for air. But as soon as he comes to the top of the water they throw another harpoon at him, till at

length he dies and floats on the water. Then the men cut off the flesh which contains the oil. The best oil is called sperm oil, and is taken from the head of the spermaceti whale. We burn this oil in lamps for lighting parlors and other rooms; and a great deal of it is used in factories to oil the machinery and for other purposes. The oil obtained from the flesh of the whale is used in dressing leather, and by being clarified it is made good to burn. What is called whalebone is taken from the mouth of a particular kind of whale. It forms the gills of that whale.

---

Where are fishes caught? What is said of the halibut? Of what sorts of fishes are the greatest quantities taken? What is said of the size of the whale, and of the manner of taking him?

## LETTER XVI.

### MANUFACTURING TOWNS. — VARIOUS EMPLOYMENTS.

BESIDES farming towns and seaports, there is another very important class of towns and cities in Massachusetts known as manufacturing towns. To manufacture, means to make things with the hands, and the people in those towns are principally employed in making a great number of things that can be sold to the farmers to buy provisions with, or be sent out of the State for that purpose. The larger part of the land of Massachusetts is not very good for raising wheat or corn. It is only good for hay and pasturage; and almost all the flour, and a great part of the corn, that is used in Massachusetts, is brought from other States where wheat and corn grow better. In order to be able to buy these and other things that they want, the people of Massachusetts manufacture and sell to the people of other States a great number of useful articles. Among the principal things which they manufacture are cotton and woollen cloths. Cotton-wool grows in the Southern States, on a sort of bush planted for that purpose, and is brought to Massachusetts to be manufactured. Some of the sheep's wool manufactured in Massachusetts is raised in the State, but the greater part is brought from other States. From this cotton and

sheep's wool a great many different kinds of cloth are made, such as shirtings, sheetings, calicoes, delaines, satinetts, cassimeres, broadcloths, shawls, blankets, and many other kinds. The spinning and weaving is done by machinery, so that a single person is able to attend many spindles and several looms. The factories in which these cloths are made are generally very large buildings of brick or stone, and a great number of persons are employed in them.

Another branch of manufactures which employs a still greater number of people, is the making of shoes, of which great quantities are sent into other States. Making leather out of hides, to be used by the shoemakers, is also a considerable business, but much of the leather used in Massachusetts is brought from other States. There are also many great establishments for working up iron into various useful things,—chains, anchors, ploughs, hoes, shovels, knives and forks, penknives and razors. It would take quite a large book to tell you all the different kinds of useful things that are made in Massachusetts. Every town of any size has a number of mechanics in it, such as blacksmiths, who make iron tools and shoe horses; carpenters and joiners, who build houses and other buildings of wood; masons, who build brick and stone houses, walls, and chimneys; and cabinet makers, who make tables, desks, sideboards, bedsteads, and other furniture for houses. Some are bakers, some are tailors, and some are hatters. In many parts of the State, the women and children, when they get leisure, braid straw or palmleaf to be made into hats.

Some make jugs, bowls, milk-pans, and other vessels of clay, and are called potters. The tinman makes pails and other things of tin; the coopers make barrels, tubs, and kegs. Some people make wagons, and chaises, and coaches; some are paper-makers, some print books, and some bind books. In some parts of the State people get a living by splitting stones into long square blocks, and hammering them smooth. The stones are used in buildings of various kinds. The best stone for this use is of a grayish blue color, and is called granite. The granite is very hard, but it is split easily with small iron wedges. In the winter many people are employed in cutting up the ice out of ponds in great square blocks. It is stored in icehouses to be used in the summer, and much of it is sent out of the State in ships. Some people make bricks of clay, some make nails, and some make clocks. Some keep various kinds of goods to sell, and are called traders and merchants. Some are lawyers, some are doctors, some are ministers, and some keep school.

There are a great many other sorts of business which I do not mention now, for fear of tiring you.

---

What are manufacturing towns? Mention some of the principal manufactures in Massachusetts. Are there any other kinds of business, and what?

## LETTER XVII.

### ALMS-HOUSES, SCHOOLS, CHURCHES.

THE people of Massachusetts are generally pretty good to work. Some of them complain a good deal of hard times, but almost all make out to get a comfortable living. Yet there are some people who are old, and sick, and unable to work; and there are some who are idle and will not work. Some people in almost every town lay out nearly all the money they can get in buying rum, and drink so much that they are not fit for anything. These are very bad people; and, if they suffer ever so much, they suffer by their own fault. But do you not pity their poor little children, who often go ragged and bare-foot, and in the winter shiver with cold, and sometimes have no bread to eat? I think you must pity such poor little children with all your heart, especially when you consider that for want of clothing many of them are prevented from going to school.

The poor old people, and the poor sick people, who cannot work, and the little children who have nobody to take care of them, are taken care of by the towns; that is, by the inhabitants of the towns. Many towns have a house built on purpose for such people to live in. This house is called the poor-house, and sometimes the alms-

house. Some towns have no poor-house, but board out their poor in different families. The persons thus taken care of are called paupers.

There are also three great alms-houses supported by the State. These are for paupers who have come into the State from other States or countries, and whom it does not belong to any particular town or city to support. These persons are called State paupers.

Every town and city in the State is provided with a number of school-houses ; and teachers are hired to keep school in them. The cities and larger towns have schools which are kept all the year. The schools in the country towns are commonly kept by men about three months in the winter. At this time the larger children go to school, and learn to read, write, and cipher, and some of them study grammar and geography. In the summer the schools are kept by women ; and then the smaller children go to school, and learn to read and spell, and sometimes to write and cipher.

Besides the common or public schools there are many others called private schools ; and in some of the towns there are schools called academies. All children in Massachusetts have the right to attend some one of the public schools of the town or city in which they live, without paying anything. The parents of children who attend private schools have to pay the teacher. So do those who attend the academies, which are a kind of school for older pupils, and especially for those who wish to fit for college. But it is not necessary to go to an academy for this. The cities and many of the large towns in Mas-

sachusetts, besides the public schools for the younger pupils, have others called high schools, for the older pupils, which are quite equal to the academies. The colleges are a yet higher kind of school. I shall give you an account of them hereafter.

There are also several schools called normal schools, supported at the expense of the State. They are for the particular instruction of young persons who wish to become teachers. One or two of the cities have, besides, normal schools of their own.

Every child in Massachusetts has an opportunity of learning to read and write, if he will improve it, and also to learn a great deal besides. But some children are idle and naughty, and do not try to learn. I hope this will never be the case with any children who read this letter; for bad children are a great trial to their parents, and almost always become bad men and women if they live to grow up.

Almost every village in the State has at least one building where the people meet together to worship God, and to hear the minister preach, and to learn how they must behave if they expect to be happy. These buildings are called meeting-houses, and also churches; in cities and large towns they are commonly so called. Some of them are very handsome buildings, with tall, beautiful spires. All good people in Massachusetts make it a point to attend on Sunday at some church to which they belong.

---

What is the alms-house for? What is said of district schools? Do you attend school? A district school? Or a private school? What is said of churches or meeting-houses?



## LETTER XVIII.

### TOWN MEETINGS.

IN every town and city in Massachusetts, the inhabitants have meetings, every year, to choose officers and for other purposes. Perhaps you would like to know a little about them. In the towns the people all meet in one place, and the first thing that is done is to choose a moderator. A moderator is a person to keep order and govern the meeting, and is chosen in this way. The men write on little pieces of paper the name of the person whom they wish to have for moderator. These pieces of paper, with names on them, are called votes or ballots; and the men put them into a box or hat. This is called voting or balloting. After the men have voted, the votes are turned out on a table, or desk, and counted. The person who has the greatest number of votes is moderator of the meeting.

After the moderator is chosen he commonly asks some minister to make a prayer. After prayer, the moderator calls upon the people to bring in their votes for town clerk. The town clerk is the man who writes down in a book what is done at the meeting.

After the town clerk is chosen, the voters choose selectmen. The selectmen are commonly three, five, or seven

of the principal people in the town, who are chosen every year to manage town affairs. The voters also choose persons called assessors, to say how much tax each man in town shall pay. It costs a good deal of money to repair the roads and bridges, and to support the schools and the poor; and every man has to pay a sum of money for this purpose, according to the property he has. This is what is meant by being taxed.

The voters also choose persons to manage the poor-house and take care of the poor, called overseers of the poor; persons to hire schoolmasters and visit the schools, called the school committee; persons to oversee the mending of roads, called surveyors of the highways. They also choose at this meeting a number of other officers, but I will not mention them here. When you grow older you will know all about them. All the officers chosen at this meeting are called town officers. At this meeting the people commonly vote the sum of money the town will raise to pay the schoolmasters, to support the poor, to mend the roads, and for other purposes. This money is called the town tax, and every man in the town has to pay his share of it.

In the cities the people are so numerous that they do not all meet in one place. The cities are divided into wards, and the people of each ward meet by themselves. An officer called a warden, and chosen the year before, presides at this election. There are also other officers to assist in receiving and counting the votes, called inspectors. The people of the cities, instead of choosing selectmen, choose a mayor and aldermen; and instead of them-

selves voting taxes, they choose a body of men called the common council. This common council, together with the mayor and aldermen, vote the taxes, and attend to all the other business which in the towns is settled in town meetings.

There are other meetings every year for the choice of governor, senators and representatives, and other State officers. What the governor, senators, and representatives are chosen for, I will tell you in some other letter. I will only add in this letter, that the meeting for choosing governor, senators, and counsellors, is on the first Tuesday in November.

## LETTER XIX

### COUNTY OF ESSEX. — ITS PRINCIPAL TOWNS AND CITIES.

I AM glad to hear that you like my letters so well. I am told that you read them over several times, and that you can answer the questions. I have already told you a great many things about the State of Massachusetts, which I do not think you ever were told before; and now I will proceed to give you an account of the cities and principal towns in the State. I will begin with the county of Essex, and go on through all the counties. You must look on the map for all the cities and towns I shall mention. The names of the most important towns are on the map, but the names of the other towns are not put down, for fear of crowding it with too many words. But at the end of the book you will find a list of all the towns and cities in the State, with the number of people which they had when the last census was taken. A census is a numbering of all the people in all the towns and cities of the State. Such a census is taken once in five years. In speaking of the counties, towns, and cities, I shall not mention the number of inhabitants, but you can find it in this list. The numbers in this list are put down in figures, and before going any farther you must ask your teacher or some kind friend to teach you how to read figures. You can also learn from this list the names of all the towns in each county, and how many there are.

Beginning at the northeast, we find in Essex county the city of Newburyport. This city is on the south bank of Merrimack river, about three miles from the sea. Vessels come up the river to the town, where there are many wharves and stores. Wharves are places built out into the water, to which vessels can come for the purpose of loading or unloading.

The Merrimack is here about half a mile wide, and there is a beautiful bridge over it, supported in a curious manner by great iron chains. On the north bank of the river are the towns of Salisbury and Amesbury, on opposite banks of the Powow, a small stream running into the Merrimack. In these towns are extensive woollen and cotton factories. Newburyport also has several large cotton factories carried by steam. Newburyport is one of the shire towns of Essex county. It is thirty-four miles northeast from Boston.

About twelve miles south of Newburyport is Ipswich, another of the shire towns of the county. This is one of the oldest towns in the State. It is on both sides of Ipswich river, a pretty large stream, which runs northeast through the middle of Essex county, and empties into the sea at Ipswich. There is a stone bridge of two arches across the river. Here is a factory for making lace, which is woven in a very curious sort of loom.

Thirteen miles south of Ipswich is the city of Salem, also a shire town, and the oldest town in the county. It is also the oldest town but one in the State. Salem is situated between two creeks, or inlets from the sea, called the North and South rivers. The tide flows up these inlets.

Across the North river is a long wooden bridge, which joins Salem to Beverly. The South river forms Salem harbor. It is a pretty good harbor, but the water is not deep enough for the largest ships to come up to the wharves. There are many rich merchants in Salem, who own ships and carry on a great deal of trade. There is also a large steam cotton factory, and many manufactures of various kinds. Most of the houses in Salem are of wood, but many are of brick, and some of stone. Many of the houses are handsome, particularly on Chestnut street, and near the common, which is a beautiful level field laid out in gravel walks, and bordered with fine elms. There are, however, in the city, some odd and curious old houses. The court-house is a new and beautiful building. An aqueduct furnishes the city with a supply of soft spring water. There is a large public library called the Salem Athenæum, containing more than ten thousand volumes. There is also a society here called the East India Marine Society. This society has a large hall full of curious things, which the sea captains have brought home from India and from other foreign countries. You would be very much delighted to see them. In Essex county there are three shire towns, Newburyport, Ipswich, and Salem. Salem is fourteen miles northeasterly from Boston.

Five miles southwest of Salem is the city of Lynn. Lynn is built on a fine smooth plain that slopes down to the seashore, while it is bounded towards the land by steep and high rocks. It is a very neat town, mostly of wooden houses, and is famous for the manufacture of

women's shoes. Chocolate is also made here. Chocolate is made of a sort of nut called cocoa. The cocoa is brought in ships from countries that lie a great way off to the south.

Southeast of Lynn is the little town of Nahant. Nahant is a high, rocky piece of land, almost surrounded by the sea, but joined to the shore by a narrow ridge of sand and pebbles, a mile and a half long. On one side of this ridge, where the sea breaks, is a fine, hard, smooth beach, very pleasant to ride and walk upon. A great many people go to Nahant, to enjoy the sea breezes, to walk and ride on the beach, and to see the great waves roll up and break upon the sand, or dash into white foam against the rocks. On the northern side is a village of neat houses made extremely convenient for summer residence. There is also a very large public house, besides several other houses of entertainment.

---

What is a census? Where is Newburyport? on what river? and what is said of it? What is said of Ipswich? Where are Salisbury and Amesbury, and what is said of them? In what part of Essex county is Salem? What is said of it? How many shire towns in Essex county, and which are they? For what is Lynn famous? What is said of Nahant?

## LETTER XX.

VICINITY OF SALEM. — TOWNS ON CAPE ANN. — HAVERHILL.  
— CITY OF LAWRENCE.

BESIDES the towns which I have already described, there are several others in the county of Essex, about which I dare say you will be pleased to know something. South Danvers, which joins Salem on the west, has important iron works, tanneries, and other factories. North Danvers is also a considerable town. Marblehead, four miles west of Salem, is situated on a rocky peninsula; that is, a piece of land almost surrounded by water. It has a good harbor, and is famous for its concern in the cod fishery. Swampscott is a small fishing town between Marblehead and Lynn. It also has some elegant summer residences. Phillips' Beach, in this town, is much frequented during the summer. Beverly, already mentioned, north of Salem, is a considerable fishing town. But the town most famous for this business is Gloucester, on Cape Ann, sixteen miles northeast of Salem. This is a rocky town. It extends across the Cape, and is washed by the ocean on the north and on the south side. On the south side is a fine harbor, and here is the principal village, which is a very considerable place. More fishing vessels are owned here than anywhere else in the State.



At the farther end of Cape Ann, five miles from Gloucester, is the town of Sandy Bay. It has no harbor, but the people have built great stone walls which run out into the sea, and form a shelter for their vessels. These walls are built of large stones held together by clamps of iron. In storms the waves dash against them very terribly, and sometimes move the largest and heaviest of these stones. There are large quarries of granite in Sandy Bay, and a great deal of it is split and carried to Boston and other places. The town also has a factory for making a thick cloth called duck, for the sails of vessels. A considerable number of fishing vessels are owned here. Most of the fishing vessels fitted out from Cape Ann are built at Essex, a town on the north shore of the Cape, between Gloucester and Ipswich. Between Gloucester and Beverly is Manchester, which has a small harbor.

Let us pass now up the Merrimack river to the town of Haverhill. Vessels can sail up to this town, which is eighteen miles from Newburyport and thirty-two from Boston. On the banks of the Merrimack, between Newburyport and Haverhill, many fine vessels are built. Haverhill, which is quite a town, is largely engaged in the manufacture of shoes. A covered bridge across the Merrimack connects it with Bradford, a pleasant farming town on the south side of the river.

But much the largest and most flourishing manufacturing place in the county of Essex is the city of Lawrence, situated on the Merrimack, a few miles above Haverhill. Here is a fall in the Merrimack, one of those water-falls of which I have spoken in a former letter as so useful for

manufacturing purposes. To have the full use of the water, a strong and high stone dam has been built across the river. When the river is full and the water flows over the dam, it makes a beautiful sight. Above this dam the water is taken out of the river by a broad and deep canal which runs along by the river, which it enters again some distance below the dam. From this long canal short canals run directly into the river, and the water flowing down one of these short canals is sufficient to carry one or more factories. Quite a number of factories of the largest size have been built, and a large city has grown up here, all within a few years.

---

What towns in the neighborhood of Salem ? What is the largest fishing town, and where situated ? What is said of it ? What town at the end of Cape Ann ? For what is it remarkable ? Where is Haverhill, and what is said of it ? What is the chief manufacturing town in the county ? How are the factories carried ?

## LETTER XXI.

### ANDOVER ACADEMY AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.—DUMMER ACADEMY.

ON the south bank of the Merrimack, adjoining the city of Lawrence, is the town of Andover. The principal village, which is some distance from the river, is about twenty miles north from Boston. The soil here is very good, and there are many fine farms and neat houses. In Andover there are two famous schools; one is called Phillips' Academy, and the other the Theological Seminary. Phillips' Academy is the richest academy in the State, and the oldest but one. About fifty years ago Mr. John Phillips and Mr. Samuel Phillips, two worthy gentlemen, gave a large sum of money to establish this academy. Boys at the age of ten or twelve years, if they behave well, can go to it and study Latin and Greek, and be fitted for college. Those who are so poor that they cannot pay for board and instruction, but are good young men and excellent scholars, are assisted with board, and receive instruction without paying for it.

The oldest academy in the State was established more than seventy years ago, at Byfield, about four miles from Newburyport, by Mr. William Dummer. It is called Dummer Academy. The first person who kept school in

it was Master Moody ; he was a very good master, and many of the boys who went to school to him, when they grew up, became famous men.

The Theological Seminary at Andover is on a hill, presenting a delightful prospect. There are three large brick buildings standing in a row, and before them is a green yard planted with trees. The young men who go to the seminary spend three years in study, in order to qualify themselves to be ministers of the gospel. They have learned men to teach them, who are called professors. They do not pay anything for instruction, and many who are poor have their board given them.

## LETTER XXII.

### COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX. — CITY OF CHARLESTOWN.

THE oldest town in Middlesex county is the city of Charlestown. It is in the southeast part of the county, and is built on a peninsula between the mouths of Mystic and Charles rivers. A peninsula, I have told you already, is a piece of land almost surrounded by water. Charles river is not large, and Mystic river is small, but as they come near the sea, both of them spread out to a great width. There are extensive salt marshes on their banks.

There are two large wooden bridges across the Mystic river; one of them joins Charlestown to Malden, the other joins it to Chelsea. Two bridges across the Charles river connect Charlestown with Boston. Charlestown has a harbor and wharves, many vessels, and much trade.

In this city is the State Prison. It consists of a very large building of granite, in form of a cross, with a large eight-sided building in the centre. The whole is surrounded by a high stone wall. These buildings have a great number of very small rooms in them, with iron doors and strong locks. The little rooms are called cells. No cell has more than one window, and that narrow, letting in only a faint light. The windows have iron bars across them on the outside. When the iron doors are

opened, they grate on their hinges; and when one speaks in the cells, it makes a most dismal sound. The State Prison was made for persons that steal, pass counterfeit money, break open stores and houses, set fire to stores and houses, or do other wicked things contrary to the laws of the State. When a person has been found guilty of some dreadful crime, they shut him up in one of the cells, and sometimes chain him there. Those prisoners who are not so bad go out of their cells every morning; but they are obliged to work hard all day, and be shut up again at night. They sleep upon straw, eat coarse food, and are very unhappy. Nothing can be more gloomy than the State Prison. If you were to go into it to see how it looks, it would make you shudder. But I do hope no child who reads this letter will ever behave so bad as to be shut up in that dreadful place.

In the town of Somerville, between Charlestown and Cambridge, on a gentle swell of land, is the McLean Asylum for the Insane. It has several large, handsome buildings of brick. It has been built in order that insane, that is, crazy people, may be carried to it, and be better taken care of than they can be at home. It is called after Mr. John McLean, who gave a great sum of money to support this hospital, and for other charitable purposes. There is also in Somerville a large brick college, called Tufts' college, after the gentleman who gave the land on which it is built.

Breed's Hill, where the famous battle was fought, commonly called the battle of Bunker Hill, is in Charlestown. Your mother, or some other friend, will tell you some-

thing about this battle. On the place where the battle was fought, is a very large and high monument of granite. Its shape is square, but it is larger at the bottom than at the top, and higher than the highest steeple you ever saw. Such a pillar is called an obelisk. It is a noble object to look at. It is made hollow, having two hundred and ninety-four stairs within, winding round and round, so that one can go up to the top. At the top is a chamber, from the windows of which one is able to see to a great distance. The monument stands in the centre of a square, enclosed with an iron railing, and surrounded with handsome houses.

In Charlestown is a great navy yard, belonging to the United States. Massachusetts is one of the United States, but there are many other States besides. The navy yard is enclosed on one side by a high stone wall, and on the other sides by the water. Within the wall are brick houses for the officers and men; also magazines, and workshops, and storehouses, in which are kept all sorts of articles used in fitting out vessels of war. There is a very large and long stone building for manufacturing cordage. There are a number of immense wooden houses, under which they build the largest ships. The greatest curiosity is the dry dock, sunk in the ground and built of stone. It has great gates which communicate with the sea, and through which the largest ships can be floated in. The gates are then closed, the ship propped up, and the water pumped out. The bottom of the ship is thus laid bare, so that it can be repaired. In this navy yard ships of war for the United States are built. Some of

them carry a hundred great guns. There are generally several of these great ships lying in the water near the navy yard.

---

How is Charlestown situated ? By what is it connected with Boston ? What is the State Prison for ? What is said of it ? What battle was fought in Charlestown ? What is said of the monument ? To whom does the navy yard belong ? What is it used for ?



## LETTER XXIII.

### CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

ABOUT three miles west from Charlestown, and as many from Boston, is Cambridge. This city has three principal villages: Cambridgeport, East Cambridge, and Old Cambridge. Old Cambridge has many fine houses, and is planted with trees, and in the summer season is very pleasant. Here is Harvard University. A university is very nearly the same as a college. Harvard College is much the oldest school in the United States. It was founded more than two hundred years ago, and a few years after the country was first settled by white people. It is called after Mr. John Harvard, who, when it was first founded, gave a sum of money to support it. A great many people have since given money to it, and it is now rich. The college buildings are on a fine level plain. There are seven or eight large buildings of brick, and three of stone. The building which is called Divinity Hall stands at a considerable distance from the rest. The other buildings stand in a square, and between them is a fine large green, planted with elms, with gravel walks across it. All round the square there is a belt of young pines and other trees.

Connected with the university are a great many young

men, who go there to study. Learned professors and tutors are there to teach them; and a great number of books for them to read. The university has a very large library, which is kept in a beautiful stone building. There is also connected with it an observatory, in which are large telescopes and other instruments for looking at the stars. It also has a botanic garden, in which are collected a great variety of trees and flowers. Botany is the knowledge of trees and flowers, and this garden is for the use of botanical students. In one of the buildings is a fine cabinet of minerals, that is, of all kinds of stones and ores. There is also a hall containing a great many portraits of distinguished persons and benefactors of the college. The young men at Cambridge have very great advantages, and ought to make great progress in their studies. Once every year there is an exhibition called Commencement. Several hundred ladies and gentlemen from various parts of the country go to Commencement, to hear the young men of the university speak their orations, poems, and other pieces which they have written. After a young man has been four years at college, if he has studied well and behaved well, he is called a Bachelor of Arts. Some of the young men remain, after they have become Bachelors of Arts, to study law, divinity, or medicine; that is, to qualify themselves for being lawyers, ministers, or doctors. The medical college, however, is not in Cambridge, but in Boston, where a course of lectures is delivered to the medical students every winter. There is also connected with the university what is called the Lawrence Scientific School,

after Mr. Abbott Lawrence, who gave a large sum of money to found it. Young men may learn a great many things necessary to be known by architects, engineers, and by those who follow various other kinds of business. Architects are those who plan houses and other buildings. Engineers plan railroads, bridges, and such things. A great number of learned and excellent men have been educated at Harvard College. The college has been a great blessing to Massachusetts ; and I hope and trust it will continue to be so for ages to come.

On the western border of Cambridge, about a mile from the colleges, is Mount Auburn Cemetery. A cemetery is a place for the burial of the dead. Mount Auburn is a beautiful piece of land, with many hills and valleys, covered with trees, and beautifully laid out with roads and walks. It is surrounded with an iron fence, having a remarkable gateway of granite. It contains a chapel, a tower on the highest hill, from which is a fine prospect, and many fine monuments of marble and granite erected to the dead. Many other cemeteries have been made in different parts of the State in imitation of Mount Auburn, but none of them are equal to it.

Cambridgeport is a large settlement east of Old Cambridge, and is connected with Boston by a very long bridge. East Cambridge is also connected with Boston by a long bridge. At this place are a court-house, jail, and an extensive manufactory of elegant cut glass. Here is also the most extensive establishment in the State for slaughtering beef cattle. Other kinds of business, particularly the making of soap and candles, are carried on to a

considerable extent. Cambridge is supplied with water by an aqueduct from Fresh Pond, on the western border of the town.

Brighton, separated from Cambridge by Charles river, is famous for its cattle fairs. Cattle and sheep, many thousand in a week, are brought in droves to this place. Every Thursday there is a sale, when the butchers assemble to make their purchases. There is also another weekly cattle market, held in Cambridge, about a mile northwest of the colleges, but there are not so many cattle sold here as at Brighton. Many of the animals sold at these fairs are brought from a great distance on the railroads.

---

Where is Cambridge, and what is said of it? How long has the college been established, and who founded it? What is the college for? What means of instruction are connected with the college? What is said of Cambridgeport? Of East Cambridge? What institutions at Somerville? For what is Brighton famous?

.

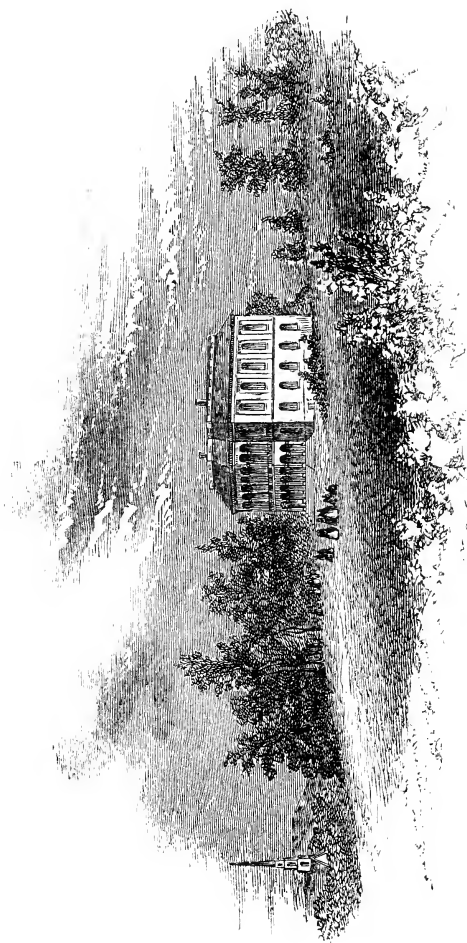
## LETTER XXIV.

### OTHER TOWNS IN MIDDLESEX. — LOWELL.

AT Newton is a theological seminary, in which young men are prepared for the ministry. There are several beautiful villages in this town. At Watertown and on the banks of Charles river is an extensive arsenal belonging to the United States, and consisting of several brick buildings, standing in a square. An arsenal is a place where cannons, muskets, balls, and other implements of war, are kept.

Waltham is on Charles river, eleven miles distant from Boston. The thickly settled part of the town is called Waltham Plain; it is nearly level, has a good soil, and is well cultivated. Here are the Boston and Waltham factories, at which a great deal of cotton cloth is made. They are carried by a fall in Charles river.

Medford, on the Mystic river, five miles from Boston, is famous for ship-building. West Cambridge, Winchester, Malden, Melrose, Reading, and South Reading, are all beautiful villages, within a short distance of Boston. Lexington, eleven miles from Boston, is famous for the battle fought there. There is a monument erected here in memory of this battle. It stands on the green, near the church, where the first blood was shed.



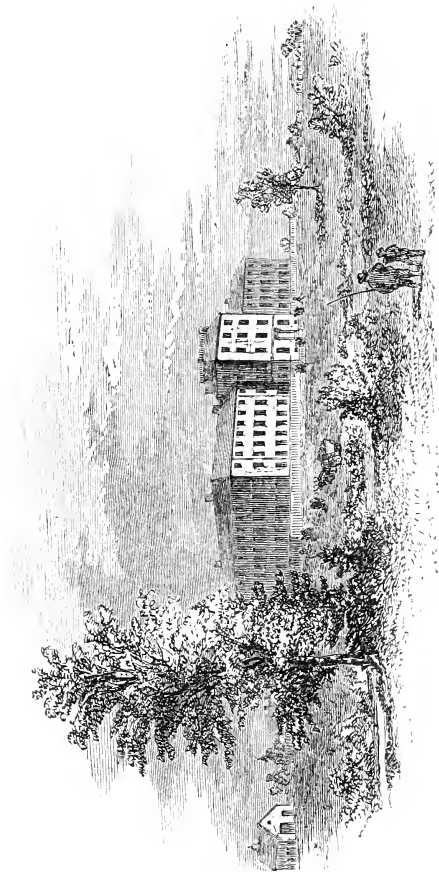
Normal School, Framingham.

Eighteen miles northwest of Boston is Concord, a pleasant town on Concord river. This river flows along with a smooth and gentle current. Concord is one of the shire towns of Middlesex county. Framingham, in the southwest part of the county, and Groton, in the northwest part, are pleasant towns. At Framingham is one of the State normal schools of which I spoke in a former letter. At Hopkinton, in the southwest corner of the county, is a mineral spring, thought to be useful for the cure of several diseases.

But much the largest town in Middlesex, and the largest in the State, next to Boston, is the city of Lowell, in the northeastern part of the county. It is situated on the Merrimack river, just below Pawtucket falls. Here, as at Lawrence, a great dam has been built across the river; the water is taken out in a canal, and is employed to carry the machinery of a great many factories. The Concord river, which here falls into the Merrimack, also furnishes additional water power. The number of persons employed in these factories is very large. Most of them are girls and women. The factories are large brick buildings; and there are, besides, many other fine buildings in the town. Lowell is one of the shire towns of Middlesex county, and has a court-house and jail. There are three shire towns in Middlesex county: Cambridge, Concord, and Lowell. At Tewksbury, which joins Lowell on the east, is one of the State alms-houses.

---

For what is Brighton famous? What is said of Newton? Of Watertown? Of Waltham? Of Medford? What is said of Concord? Where is Groton? Framingham? Hopkinton? How many shire towns in Middlesex?



Alms-House, Tewksbury.



## LETTER XXV.

SUFFOLK COUNTY. — CHELSEA. — CITY OF BOSTON.

THE county of Suffolk contains much less land than any other county in the State. It consists of only four towns. North Chelsea and Winthrop, two of these towns, contain but few inhabitants. A considerable part of these towns is salt marsh, the rest consists of well cultivated farms. North Chelsea has a fine beach, which is much frequented in the summer. Chelsea is a large and growing place. There are two large hospitals in this town, belonging to the United States, where sick seamen may be taken care of. Chelsea is joined to Charlestown by a very long bridge across Mystic river. A shorter bridge connects it with East Boston, and a ferry a mile and a half long with the main city. The ferry boats go by steam, and the sail is very pleasant. The only other town in the county of Suffolk is the city of Boston.

Boston is the metropolis or mother city of Massachusetts, and much the largest and richest in the State.

I have already told you that Charles river, as it approaches the sea, spreads out into a bay. This bay washes Boston on the western and northern sides; on the eastern side Boston is washed by the sea. Boston is almost surrounded by water; it joins the main land only on the

southern side. The peninsula on which the main city is built is about two miles long and one mile wide. Where it joins the main land it was once very narrow, and this narrow piece of land was called the Neck. But it is now greatly widened by being filled in on both sides, and wide streets have been laid out across this made land. South Boston, on another peninsula, is separated from the other part of the city by an arm of the sea, and appears like a different town. It is connected with the main city by three bridges. East Boston is also separated by water from the rest of the city, being built on an island. Ferry boats run constantly to connect it with the main city. For a hundred and fifty years after Boston was first settled, there were only two principal ways of getting into it, one by land over the Neck, and the other across the water in a ferry boat from Charlestown. But now Boston is joined to Charlestown by two fine bridges, each of them more than a quarter of a mile long; to Cambridge by two more bridges, each about half a mile long; and to Brookline by the Mill Dam, called also the Western Avenue, which is about a mile and a half long. All the bridges are of wood. The piers are made of large timbers driven into the mud, and fastened strongly together. The bridges have sidewalks for foot passengers, and lanterns placed at equal distances on both sides. These lanterns are lighted with gas every night, during that part of the month when there is no moon. The gas is made from coal in a great building for that purpose, and is carried in iron pipes all over the city. It is that part of the coal which makes the blaze, and gas

that will burn and give light can be made from anything that will blaze. It is like air, but is lighter and not fit to breath, and has a very bad smell. The streets, and many of the houses and stores, in Boston, are lighted with it; and the same is the case in the other cities and some of the towns.

---

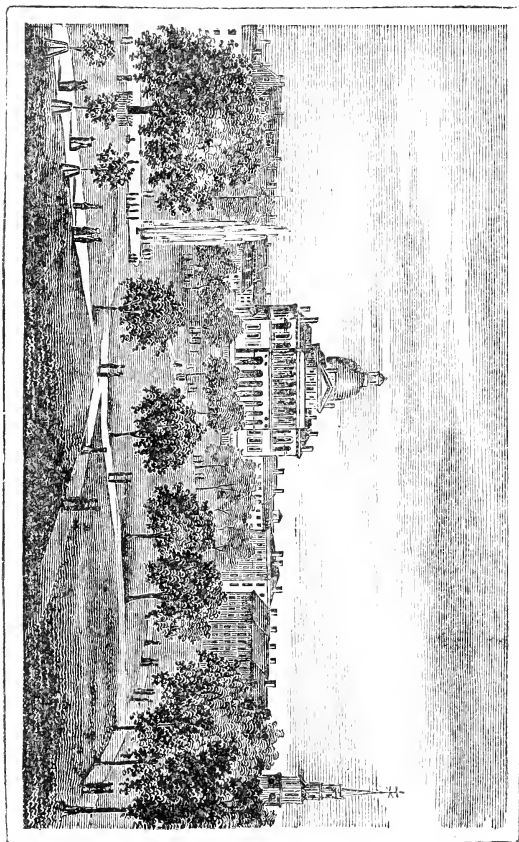
What is said of the county of Suffolk? What is said of Chelsea? What large building in Chelsea? What washes Boston on the west and northern sides? What on the east side? What is said of South Boston? How many bridges join Boston to Charlestown? How many bridges join Boston to Cambridge? What are these bridges built of? What is said of the Mill Dam? How are the streets lighted?

## LETTER XXVI.

### THE STREETS. — THE COMMON. — THE AQUEDUCT.

ALMOST the whole of Boston, except the Common, and some parts of East Boston, South Boston, and the Neck, is taken up with streets and buildings. The streets in the older parts of the city are narrow and crooked, and the buildings are mostly of wood; but in the newer parts of the city the streets are wide and straight, and the buildings are of brick and of stone. The streets are paved mostly with round, smooth stones, such as are found on the seashore; and on each side are sidewalks, paved with bricks or flat stones. The streets, as I have mentioned, have lamps at regular distances, which are lighted at night; and most of them have houses on both sides, touching each other all the way, except where they are interrupted by cross streets. The longest street in Boston is Washington street. Here are shops on each side of the way for more than a mile. The street is crowded with coaches, chaises, and other carriages; and the sidewalks are full of people, passing one way or the other. Everybody seems to be busy. There is no place so gay and bustling as the streets of a great town.

The Common is a large and beautiful five-sided field, on the westerly side of the city. Round the Common



Boston Common — State House.

are wide, smooth gravel walks, planted with rows of trees. Some of the trees are very large and old. There are also walks across the Common, and trees scattered up and down. Not far from the middle is a small pond of fresh water, with young elms round its border. The Common is a great ornament to the city. On four sides of it there are splendid houses. Tremont street, on which are dwelling houses of stone and brick, four stories high, fronts it on the east; Park street, at one end of which is a church, remarkable for its high and beautiful steeple, fronts it on the northeast; on the northwest is Beacon street, on which stands the State House, with many large and elegant dwelling houses; and Boylson street, which also has many fine buildings, fronts it on the southwest.

Charles street, on the west, separates it from the Public Garden, which is nearly half as large as the Common itself, and is beautifully laid out in walks, and planted with shrubs and flowers. The Common is not level, except the part nearest Charles street, but rises in fine swells, from the highest portion of which there is a wide and beautiful prospect of the spreading waters of Charles river, and the towns which join Boston on the west. South Boston and East Boston also have Commons, and there are on the Neck a number of beautiful squares planted with trees.

One of the greatest ornaments of the Common is a fountain, which is made to play into the pond above mentioned. It does not play all the time, but only occasionally. It can throw a tall column of water to a great height, far above the tops of the trees, or can be made to

take on a variety of beautiful forms. This fountain is supplied with water by the aqueduct which furnishes water for the people of Boston to drink. This aqueduct, which cost a great deal of money, brings to Boston the waters of a large pond called Long Pond, or sometimes lake Cochituate, which lies in the towns of Framingham, Wayland, and Natick, twenty miles distant. It is brought as far as Brookline, about four miles from Boston, through a conduit, or passage-way, built of brick, in shape like an egg, but high enough for a man to stand in. This brick conduit slopes very gradually all the way, and is buried in the ground or banked over with earth. At Brookline it empties into a reservoir, which makes quite a large pond, and from which the water is brought by immense iron pipes to the city, where it is distributed by smaller pipes through all the streets, and into almost every house. Water brought in this way through a pipe into which no air is admitted, will rise as high at the end where it comes out as the water stands at the end where it runs in. Now, the reservoir in Brookline is much higher than the greater part of Boston, and this is the reason why the water will rise to the tops of the houses, and why the fountain throws it up so high. There are in Boston three great reservoirs, large enough to hold a supply for a few days, if any accident should happen to the great iron pipes that come from Brookline. One of these reservoirs, just behind the State House, is an immense square structure of granite. The others,—one in East Boston, and one in South Boston,—are sunk in the earth on two high hills, and are surrounded with

beautiful walks. The Cochituate water is a great blessing to Boston.

---

In what part of Boston are the streets narrow and crooked? What is said of pavements? Which is the longest street? Where is the Common, and what is said of it? Where is the Public Garden? How is Boston supplied with water?

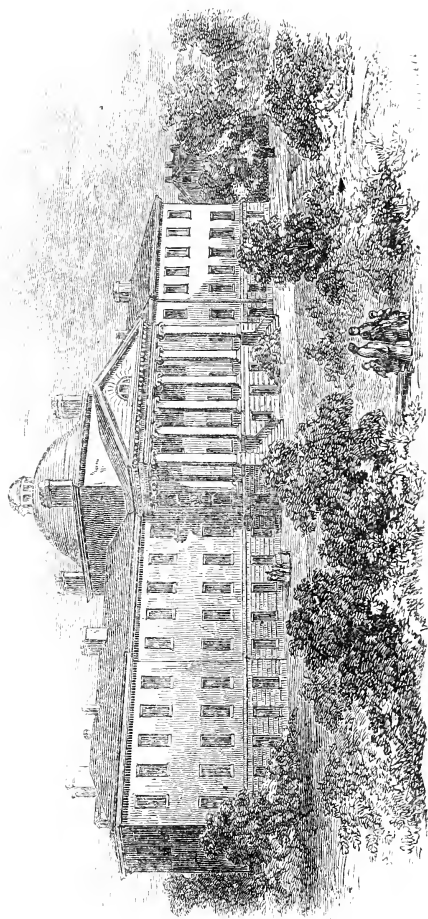


## LETTER XXVII.

MARKETS, HOSPITAL, CUSTOM HOUSE, HARBOR, AND WHARVES.

ONE of the most remarkable buildings in the city is Faneuil Hall Market. It is built of granite, and is two stories high; but the middle part is wider and higher than the rest, and has a dome at the top. This market house is five hundred and thirty-six feet long, and at each end there is a portico supported by four great pillars of granite. These pillars are twenty feet high, and more than a yard thick; and each is made of a single piece of stone. The principal entrances are at the ends under the porticos, and there is a wide passage from one end to the other, through the whole building. On each side of this passage are places called stalls, occupied by the market-men. In these stalls are kept all kinds of meat, as well as butter and cheese, and all sorts of vegetables, fowls, and fish. Every morning there is a great crowd of people about the market, who come to buy provisions. In the second story there are large, elegant halls.

On the sides of the market house are two streets called North and South Market streets, and on the sides of these streets, opposite to the market house, are rows of stores, built in one block, with granite fronts, and four stories high. There are a number of other smaller markets in

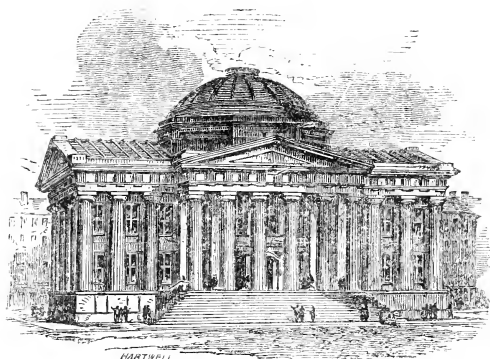


Massachusetts General Hospital.

different parts of the city, besides shops for the sale of provisions in almost every street.

In the western part of the city, near the water-side, is the Massachusetts General Hospital. This is thought by many people the finest building in the State. It is called general hospital, because all kinds of diseases are treated in it. It is of granite, and has a portico in front, supported by eight stone columns. Within, it is divided into rooms, which are furnished with every convenience for the sick people who are brought to be taken care of. Many are brought from a great distance. A number of benevolent gentlemen contributed money to build this hospital; much money was also given by the State for the same purpose. There is no better use to which money can be put, than to give it for such charitable uses. There are other hospitals in Boston for the treatment of particular diseases. One of these is the ear and eye infirmary on Charles street, which is a handsome brick building.

The most costly, and perhaps the finest, building in Boston is the Custom House. A custom house is a place where the master or owners of all ships that arrive are obliged to go to pay customs, or duties, that is, taxes, on the goods which they bring from foreign countries. Some things, such as tea and coffee, are allowed to be brought in free of duty; but all cloths, and other manufactured goods, pay duties. These duties are paid to the United States, to whom the custom house belongs. There are custom houses in all the chief seaports, but none in Massachusetts near so large as that in Boston,



Custom House, Boston.

where a great deal of business is done. The merchants who pay these duties add what they have to pay to the price of the goods, so that everybody who buys a piece of imported cloth to make clothes of, or a piece of ribbon, pays a tax upon it to the United States. The tax which every family thus pays amounts in a year to a considerable sum. Part of the money thus paid is spent by the United States in keeping up light-houses to show the way into the harbors, in building forts, and keeping soldiers in them to protect the harbors, and in building and fitting out ships of war to sail over the ocean to protect the vessels that trade to foreign countries.

The Boston custom house is a beautiful fireproof building of granite, situated between Long wharf and Central wharf, and fronting the harbor. Even the roof is made of granite. It has on each side a portico of six large columns, and a dome in the middle.

Boston harbor is very large. If you look at the map you will see that the land bends in a considerable way to make it. It contains many islands. There are more than fifty, large and small. Some of them are large enough to make valuable pastures for sheep and cattle. Several are used for various purposes, — one of them for the alms-house of the city; but most of them are very small, and many are bare rocks. By means of islands the harbor is divided into two parts, called the inner and the outer harbor. The inner harbor is that part of the harbor which is next to the city. There is water enough in the inner harbor for five hundred of the largest ships to lie at anchor in safety. The entrance of the outer harbor is between two islands, and very narrow. Scarcely two ships can come in side by side. Governor's Island and Castle Island, between which is the entrance of the inner harbor, are both fortified; that is, have forts on them, with very large cannons, in order to defend the city against enemies. The fort on Governor's Island is called Fort Warren; that on Castle Island is called Fort Independence. There is also another larger and stronger fort on George's Island, at the entrance of the outer harbor. Nearly the whole of Boston is surrounded at the water's edge by wharves. Some of the wharves run out a great way into the deep water, so that the largest vessels can come up to them; the two longest are called Long wharf and Central wharf. On each of them there is a row of high stores and warehouses, of brick and stone. Long wharf extends out into the water more than half a mile. At almost all the wharves there are constantly lying ves-

sels of all sorts and sizes, for the purpose of loading and unloading such goods and articles as are brought to the city and carried away from it. The masts of the vessels are so thick that they appear almost like a forest.

The wharves are covered with hogsheads, barrels, boxes, and other things; and a great many carts and trucks are continually employed in bringing goods and carrying them away, and a great many people are going and coming. Wharves are very busy places when business is lively.

---

How long is Faneuil Hall Market? Of what is it built? What use is made of it? What is the General Hospital for? Where is it situated? What is the object of custom houses? What is said of the Boston Custom House? What is said of Boston harbor? Of the islands in it? How is it divided? What is said of the entrance of the outer harbor? What is said of the inner harbor? Between what islands is the entrance? By what is Boston surrounded? What is said of the wharves?

## LETTER XXVIII.

### STATE HOUSE. — HOW LAWS ARE MADE.

ONE of the largest and finest buildings in Boston is the State House. It is of brick, and painted a brownish white color. It is on the top of a hill, called Beacon Hill, which is the highest land in the city. In the front of the State House is a portico, supported by large pillars; and on the top is a great dome. What a dome is you will see by looking at the picture. At the top of the dome is a small room with large windows, called the lantern. From this lantern one may have a fine view of the city, the harbor, and the surrounding country. It is very high. People who are coming to Boston see the dome of the State House at a great distance. On the lower floor of the State House, opposite to the principal entrance, and in a recess prepared for the purpose, stands a beautiful marble statue of Washington.

I presume you would like to know what this elegant building is for. I will tell you. A great number of gentlemen are chosen every year to go to Boston and make laws for the people of Massachusetts. These gentlemen are chosen every year at town meetings, as I have already told you. One of them is called the Governor, another the Lieutenant-Governor, nine are called Counsellors

because they advise the Governor ; forty are called Senators ; and the rest, being about three hundred, are called Representatives. These gentlemen meet in the State House every year. The Representatives meet in a large beautiful hall in the centre of the State House, called the Representatives' room. The Senators meet in another hall much smaller, but very beautiful, called the senate-chamber. The Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, and Counsellors meet in another room, called the council-chamber.

The Governor and Council, Senate and Representatives, all together, are called the General Court, or Legislature. Laws are made in this way. A Representative who wishes to have a law made, writes it down on a piece of paper. This writing is called a bill. A gentleman called the Speaker reads the bill to the Representatives, and asks those who wish it to become a law to stand up ; then he asks those who do not wish it to become a law to stand up. If, upon three readings of the bill at different times, the number of Representatives who wish it to become a law is greater than the number who oppose it, the Speaker signs the bill with his own name, and sends it to the Senate. A gentleman called the President of the Senate reads the bill to the Senators ; and if they like the bill, they vote for it. Then the President of the Senate signs the bill, and sends it to the Governor. If the Governor likes the bill, he signs it, and then it becomes a law ; and everybody in the State must obey the law or be punished. Sometimes, however, the bill is first brought into the Senate, and sent to the



Representatives, and from them to the Governor ; but all bills relating to taxes must begin in the House of Representatives. Laws are not made, however, so fast as you might suppose from this account. For very often the Representatives and Senators talk a long time about a bill, before they take a vote upon it; and often either the Representatives or the Senators vote against it.

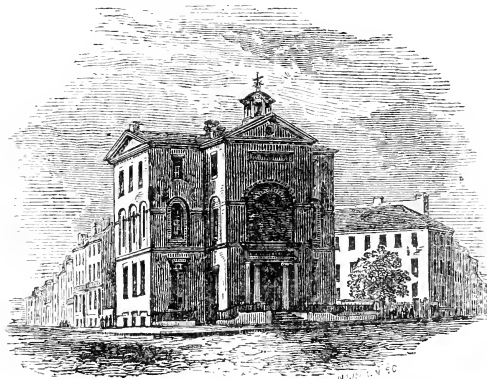
---

Where is the State House ? What is it for ? How are laws made ?

## LETTER XXIX.

### SCHOOLS. — LIBRARIES. — MUSEUM.

I HAVE no doubt you would like to know something about the schools of Boston. The people of the city have taken great pains with their schools. Those for the youngest children are kept by women, and are called primary schools. Children from the age of four to eight are taught at these schools to read and spell. At the age of eight, if the children can read, they may be admitted into the grammar schools. In these schools the children are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and



Phillips' School.

grammar. The boys may remain in these schools till they are fourteen years old; the girls can stay a year longer. Besides these grammar schools, there are three others, one called the English high school, another the Latin grammar, and the third the normal school. Boys can enter the English high school at twelve years of age, and remain three years. They are instructed in the higher branches of English education. Boys can enter the Latin grammar school when nine years old. At this school they study Latin and Greek, and are fitted for college. The normal school is for the education of those who wish to become teachers. To be well educated is one of the greatest blessings a child can enjoy; and the people of Boston have taken care that no child in the city, who is studious and well disposed, shall want this blessing. Besides the schools I have mentioned, there are in Boston a great number of private schools.

At South Boston is the Perkins Institution for the Blind, so called after Mr. Thomas H. Perkins, who gave a house in which to establish it. This institution now occupies a large five-story building on the high land of South Boston, and a great many blind are collected and taught there. They have books made on purpose for them, in which the letters are raised so that they can feel them with their fingers.

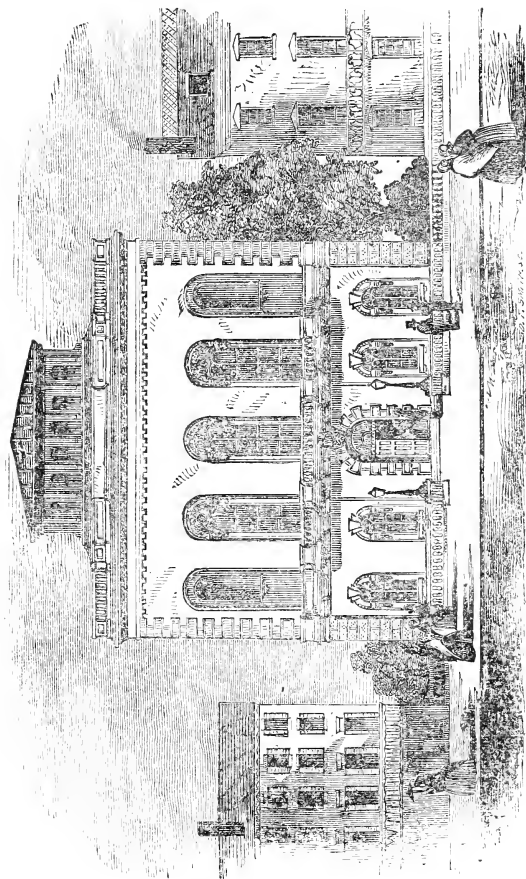
There is also, on Thompson's Island, in the harbor, the Boston farm school for indigent boys. This school is intended for boys who have no parents to take care of them, and who are in danger of becoming vicious and wicked. The Asylum for orphan girls is a handsome

building on Washington street. In addition to these, there are several other places in the city where orphan or indigent children are provided for and educated, so as to be able to get a living for themselves. I do not know any better thing that can be done than to save poor children from growing up idle, ignorant, and wicked, and putting them in the way to become useful and respectable.

There are in Boston several large public libraries. The largest is the Boston Athenæum, on Beacon street. It occupies a large and handsome building. Besides the rooms filled with books, is one large room full of statues, and others at the top of the building filled with pictures ; but in order to see these you must pay an admission fee, and nobody can take books from the library except those who own shares in it.

The city library on Boylston street is also a large and handsome building. Mr. Joshua Bates, a rich merchant of London, but who was born in Boston, has given a large sum of money to fill it with books. Anybody who lives in Boston can take books out of this library, merely by putting down his name.

In Tremont street is kept the Boston museum, in a large and handsome stone building. This is a collection of all sorts of curiosities, filling several large halls and chambers. You would like very well to see them ; and, whenever you go to Boston, by paying a few cents you may see them all. There are a great many images of wax ; a great many skins of animals stuffed so as to look almost as if the animals were alive ; a great many curious



Boston Library

shells taken from the sea ; a great many snakes and other reptiles ; and all sorts of insects and birds, as well as a great many fine pictures and prints, and other curiosities, more than I can remember.

---

What is said of schools in Boston ? What children go to primary schools ? What to grammar schools ? At what age are boys admitted to the English high school ? To the Latin grammar school ? For what is the normal school ? Where and how are blind children taught ? Which is the largest library in Boston ? Give some account of the Athenæum ? Of the Museum ? What is said of the city library ?

## LETTER XXX.

### OTHER REMARKABLE THINGS IN BOSTON.

BOSTON is a large and beautiful city, and there are a great many things in it worth seeing and knowing besides those I have spoken of. Some of them I will just mention; but I shall not describe them at length, for fear you should grow tired of my letters.

There are in Boston more than a hundred churches, some of which, with their tall spires, are very handsome. It is very pleasant on a still Sabbath morning to hear all the bells ringing to call the people to meeting.

Faneuil hall is a noble and elegant building. The great hall in it is seventy-six feet square, and twenty-eight feet high. It is used for public meetings of the citizens.

Boston is the shire town of Suffolk county. It has a large court house, and a very large jail, both of stone. The city hall is a handsome stone building, with an open space before it, beautifully planted with flowers; and in the square, south east of it, stands a statue of Franklin, a very wise and good man, who was born in Boston. It was Franklin who invented lightning rods. It fronts on School street. On the same street is Horticultural hall, a small but handsome building, where there is an



Hanover Street Church



exhibition every week of fruits and flowers. The merchant's exchange, a large, handsome granite building, is in State street. The post office is kept in this building. The old State House, now occupied for stores, is at the front of this street. State street is lined with handsome stone buildings, mostly used for banks and insurance offices, of which there are a great number in Boston. The object of the insurance companies is to protect persons against loss by fire, or by storms at sea. By paying one of these companies a certain sum every year, the company will agree, if your ship is lost, or your house or furniture burnt up, to pay you the full value. Some of them will also agree, if a person will pay them a moderate amount every year, whenever that person happens to die, to pay over a much larger sum for the benefit of his family. The banks keep money to lend to persons who wish to borrow, and who can give good security to pay it back. Those who borrow pay interest for the use of it. Legal interest is six dollars for the use for a year of a hundred dollars, or six cents for one dollar. The bills of these banks circulate the same as money, and are commonly considered to be money. But if you read one of them you will find that it is only a promise by the bank to pay so much money to the bearer on demand. If you should carry one of these bills to the bank, and ask for your money in gold or silver, the bank would be obliged to give it to you. There is another kind of banks, called savings banks. They will take your money, some of them, in sums as small as five cents; keep it for you, and pay it back when you want it, with interest. I should

think it would be much better to put the money you get into one of these banks, than to spend it all for toys and sugar-plums. In that way, by the time you were grown up, you might have a handsome sum of money to commence business with.

Besides the buildings I have mentioned, there are also in Boston several theatres, where plays are acted; and several large and beautiful halls for musical concerts, and other purposes.

Among the largest and handsomest buildings are some of the hotels for the entertainment of the numerous strangers who visit the city.

In Boston there are numerous printing-offices, where books are printed; and bookstores, where books are sold. At the different printing-offices there are printed a great number of newspapers. Some are published six times a week, others three times, some twice, and some once a week. These papers are carried by the railroads into all parts of the country. There are printing-offices, and newspapers are published in all the larger towns, as well as in Boston; but much more work of this sort is done here than in all the rest of the State.

I have now been a long time giving you an account of the county of Suffolk, and of the city of Boston. In several of the following letters I shall go on to describe the other counties; but before doing so I must write you a letter on the railroads of Massachusetts.

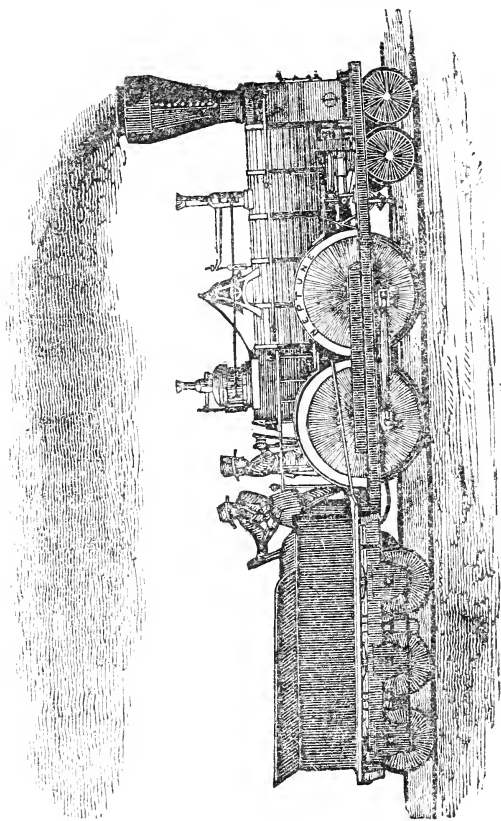
---

How many churches in Boston? What are banks? Insurance offices? What is Faneuil hall? What other remarkable buildings? What is a bank? What is a savings bank? What is an insurance company for? What is said of the Boston newspapers?

## LETTER XXXI.

### RAILROADS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

SOME of the most remarkable structures in Boston are those connected with the railroads, of which, before leaving the city, I must give you some account. A railroad, as I dare say you know already, is a road so contrived that the wheels of the carriages, instead of rolling on the ground, roll along on smooth strips or rails of iron, supported on pieces of wood, called sleepers. On such a road a horse can drag about twenty times as much as on a common road. There are a number of horse railroads leading a short way out of Boston to the neighboring towns, but on most of the railroads horses are not used. Instead of horses, railroad engines are employed, which go by steam, and drag the cars very fast indeed. A horse cannot go for any distance more than ten miles an hour; and, if he is used every day, he cannot be driven more than twenty or thirty miles a day. A railroad engine can drag a long train of heavy cars, which it would take many horses to move, at the rate of twenty and even of forty miles an hour; and can travel day and night for a long time. The engine, however, must stop every twenty or thirty miles to be fed. It must have water to make steam of, and wood to make it with, and oil to



Locomotive

grease the machinery and the wheels, so that they may run smoothly. In Massachusetts the passenger trains run from twenty to thirty miles an hour; but the freight trains not quite so fast.

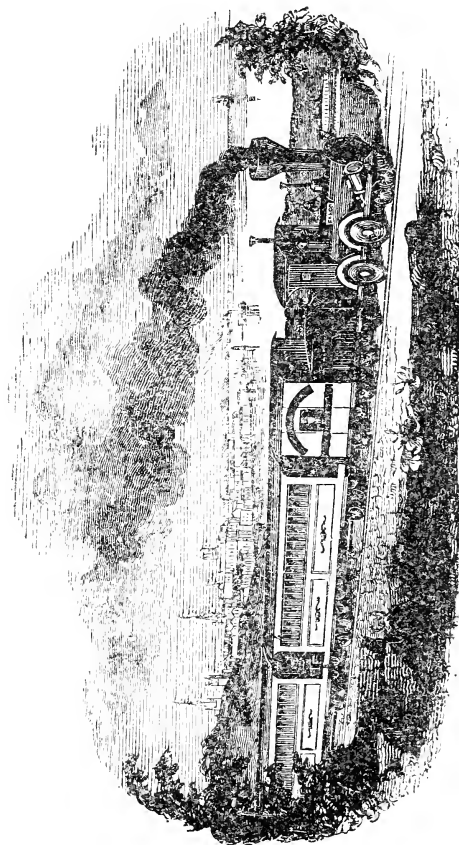
When I was a boy there were no railroads, and all the travelling was done in stages. There were lines of stages that ran from Boston in all directions. It took two days to go from Boston to Berkshire county; and when the roads were bad you would have to ride all night. Now you can go by railroad in six hours. By means of the railroads all parts of the State are brought within a short day's ride of Boston. There are eight principal railroads running out of Boston. The Eastern railroad runs through Chelsea, Lynn, and Salem, to Newburyport, where it crosses the Merrimack by a bridge, and runs by Salisbury into New Hampshire. The Maine railroad runs through Somerville, Malden, Reading, Andover, and across the Merrimack to Lawrence and Haverhill, and thence into New Hampshire. The Lowell railroad runs to Lowell, where it joins another railroad which follows the Merrimack into New Hampshire. The Fitchburg railroad runs through Concord to Fitchburg, in the north part of Worcester county; here it joins the Vermont and Massachusetts railroad, which leads to and across the Connecticut river, and up that river into Vermont. The Worcester railroad runs through Brighton, Newton, and Framingham, to Worcester, where it joins the Western railroad, which runs west across the State into New York. The Providence railroad runs through Norfolk and Bristol counties to Providence, in Rhode Island.

The New York and Boston railroad runs through Norfolk county into the south part of Worcester county, where it joins another road leading into Connecticut. The Old Colony railroad runs into Plymouth and Bristol counties, and connects with the Cape Cod railroad, leading into Barnstable county. All these railroads have branches, which lead off to towns not on the main line. They also connect with other roads which cross different parts of the State. Thus, there is a railroad up the Merrimack from Newburyport to Haverhill; one from Salem to Lawrence, called the Essex railroad; one from Lowell to Worcester; one from Worcester to Providence; one from Worcester south into the State of Connecticut; one up and down the Connecticut river. Altogether, there are more than a thousand miles of railroads in Massachusetts.

Railroads can go up and down hill, but only very gradually. It is necessary in some places to dig through hills and great ledges of rock, and in others to raise high embankments by which to cross valleys. Six of the eight railroads pass out of Boston by great bridges, and the other two on causeways built through the shallow water. It is necessary to have large buildings in which to keep the cars and engines when not in use, and in which the passengers can wait, and the freight cars be loaded and unloaded. This is the case in other cities, but still more so in Boston, where so many railroads centre.

---

What is the advantage of railroads? How are the cars moved? How fast? How many principal railroads lead out of Boston? Name them. Tell in what direction and through what counties each of these roads runs. What other railroads in the State? How many miles of railroad in the State?



Railroad Scene

## LETTER XXXII.

NORFOLK COUNTY. — CITY OF ROXBURY AND OTHER TOWNS.

PASSING out of Boston over the Neck, we enter the city of Roxbury, which joins Boston in such a manner as to seem part of the same city. This town received its name from its very rough and rocky surface. It does not contain any public institutions of importance, but has a great number of beautiful private houses, delightfully situated, and surrounded with trees and gardens.

Dorchester and Brookline, joining Boston, or separated from it only by the water, have much excellent land, as also has West Roxbury. These towns are cultivated like gardens, and scattered over them are many beautiful country seats, owned by rich gentlemen in Boston. Nothing can be more beautiful than a ride through these towns.

South of Dorchester are Milton and Quincy. At Quincy are large quarries of granite. The stone of which the Bunker Hill monument is built was brought from this place. From the quarries to the landing-place on Neponset river, a distance of about three miles, is a railroad to carry the stone upon.

At Milton are the Blue Hills, the highest land in the neighborhood of Boston. Dedham, the shire town of the



county, is on Charles river. This is a handsome town, with a court-house and jail. Here also are some considerable factories. Dedham is ten miles southwest from Boston.

Norfolk county is well watered by Charles and Neponset rivers. These rivers are, in part, united by a stream called Mother brook, which is considered to be a great curiosity. This brook begins at Dedham, and carries about a third of the water of Charles river into the Neponset. At Franklin and Bellingham, in the southwest corner of the county, and at Canton, on Neponset river, are considerable cotton and woollen factories.

The most eastern town in the county is Cohasset, which is wholly cut off from the rest of the county by the town of Hingham, in Plymouth county. It is washed by the ocean, and in the summer is a favorite resort.

---

Where is Norfolk county? What is said of Roxbury? What towns in the northeast part of the county, and what is said of them? What is there remarkable at Quincy? What at Milton? What is the shire town, where is it, and what is said of it? What is said of Mother brook? What of Cohasset?

## LETTER XXXIII.

### PLYMOUTH COUNTY. — PLYMOUTH AND OTHER TOWNS.

PLYMOUTH is the oldest county in the State, and the shire town of the county, also called Plymouth, is the oldest town. This town is situated thirty-seven miles southeast from Boston, on a bay called Plymouth Bay. It contains a great deal of land ; near the shore the land is pretty good, but farther back it is barren, and much of it is yet covered with woods. Here is a spacious harbor, but it is shallow and exposed to the east winds. Plymouth has some trade and manufactures, and many fishing vessels. If you go to Plymouth, the people there will show the first well that was dug in Massachusetts. They will also show you the rock on which the people who first came to settle in Plymouth stepped, when they landed from the ship. This rock is on the seashore, but they have split off a great piece of it and moved it up into the town. The people who first came to settle here are called the Pilgrims. A pilgrim is a person who travels a great way on account of religion. The persons who have descended from these first settlers, have formed a society, called the Pilgrim society ; and they have erected in this town an elegant building of stone, called Pilgrim hall, in which they have their meetings.

Every year, on the 22nd of December, they celebrate the day on which the Pilgrims landed.

North of Plymouth, but on the same bay, are Kingston and Duxbury; they are considerable towns, and have some trade. The country all around is flat and sandy, but there are some pleasant towns. Hingham, in the northern part of the county, is noted for the manufacture of pails, tubs, boxes, and all other kinds of wooden ware; here, also, is a manufactory of umbrellas. Adjoining Hingham on the north is the town of Hull. This town comprises the peninsula of Nantasket, which forms the southeast barrier of Boston harbor; that is, protects the harbor from the sea in that direction. It extends nearly five miles, and is celebrated for its beautiful beach four miles long. At the end of the beach is a fine highland, on which is the ancient town of Hull. Though very old, it is very little, having less than three hundred inhabitants; but in the summer-time, like Hingham, and the neighboring town of Cohasset, it is much resorted to. It is twenty-two miles from Boston by land, and nine by water.

In the western part of the county is the town of Middleborough. Here is the largest pond in the State; but what is most remarkable, they rake up from the bottom of this pond a great deal of iron ore. This ore looks like a reddish sort of stone. It is put into a very hot fire made of charcoal. The iron melts and runs from the ore. After the iron is separated from the other substances mixed with it, it is pounded out into bars, and then it is called bar iron. But much of the iron is made into pots,

kettles, stoves, and-irons, and many other things. They are made by letting melted iron run into a kind of moulds made in sand.

Wareham, on Buzzard's bay, is also largely engaged in the iron manufacture. There are also manufactories of iron, especially of nails, tacks, and brads, at Abington, in the north part of the county ; but this town is more distinguished for the manufacture of shoes. North Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, and West Bridgewater, adjoining Abington on the southwest, are also flourishing towns. At Bridgewater, adjoining the others on the south, is a State alms-house and a State normal school. Rochester, a very extensive town on Buzzard's bay, has two harbors, and some ship-building. Scituate, in the north part of the county, also has a small harbor, and is a pleasant town.

---

What is said of Plymouth ? What are the people called who first landed at Plymouth ? Where are Kingston and Duxbury ? Where is Hingham, and for what is it famous ? What is said of Hull ? Where is Middleborough, and what is said of it ? Wareham ? How many Bridgewaters, and what is said of them ? What business at Abington ? At Rochester ? What is said of Scituate ?

## LETTER XXXIV.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY. — BARNSTABLE, PROVINCETOWN, AND  
SANDWICH.

SOUTHEAST of Plymouth county is Barnstable county, on the peninsula of Cape Cod. It is joined to Plymouth county by a neck of land about eight miles wide. Barnstable county is generally sandy, and the eastern part is very barren. There is, however, a considerable quantity of land on the cape, which is well cultivated; and there is, in some parts, a great deal of valuable wood-land. The county also has many cranberry and peat meadows. The cranberries are gathered for market and sold.

The greater part of the people of this county get their living from the sea,—they are sailors and fishermen. Almost every town has a harbor. Were it not for this, the cape would be much less valuable than it now is.

In several places great quantities of salt are made from sea water. The water is pumped up by means of wind-mills into large shallow boxes made of planks or boards, called vats. The pumps are worked by machinery, which is turned by the wind. The water in the vats is exposed to the sun and air, and by degrees it dries up and leaves the salt. As the water dries up, the salt forms in beautiful pieces or lumps, called crystals. After all the salt

which the water in a vat contains, is formed, there remains a liquid called bittern. From this are made other substances, called Epsom salts, Glauber salts, and Magnesia. These are used in medicine.

The shire town of Barnstable county is also called Barnstable. It is situated on an inlet or small bay at the bottom of Cape Cod bay. The land in this town is better than in most of the other towns on the cape. Barnstable has a pretty good harbor, and considerable shipping. In the thickly settled part of the town the houses are generally neat, and many of them are elegant. It is sixty-six miles southeast from Boston.

Provincetown is the last town on the cape. It bends round in the shape of a hook, and incloses a fine harbor, called Cape Cod harbor. From the water of the harbor to the water on the other side of the cape is about two miles. The town consists mostly of beaches, sand hills, shallow ponds, and a great number of swamps. Some green corn and other vegetables for summer use are raised in gardens; but nearly all the meat and vegetables used by the inhabitants are brought from Boston. The country is sandy and barren, bearing only a few small pines, and affording sedge, and beach grass for a number of cows to eat during summer, and a quantity of salt hay for their support during winter. The village stands on the northwest side of the harbor, on the margin of a beach of loose sand. The houses are mostly situated on a street two miles long, passing round near the water's edge. The houses are generally neat in appearance, and all face the harbor. A chain of sand hills, partly

covered with shrubs and tufts of grass, rise behind the town. The whole space is occupied with wind-mills to pump up salt water to make salt. The people are engaged in the fisheries, in making salt, and in some foreign commerce. Their chief employment, however, is fishing. They catch vast quantities of cod, mackerel, and herring; and they very often take large whales that come into the harbor. The boys go out to sea as soon as they are strong enough to pull up a codfish. The people are active and industrious, and generally get a comfortable living. Some of them are wealthy.

Sandwich is situated on the neck of land which unites Barnstable county with Plymouth county. In this town more attention is paid to cultivating the earth than in any other town in the county. Near the centre of the town is a large and beautiful pond, a waterfall, and mills. It has also an important manufactory of glass.

---

What is said of Barnstable county? How is salt made of sea water? Which is the shire town of Barnstable county? Where is it, and what is said of it? Where is Provincetown, and what is said of it? What is said of Sandwich?

## LETTER XXXV.

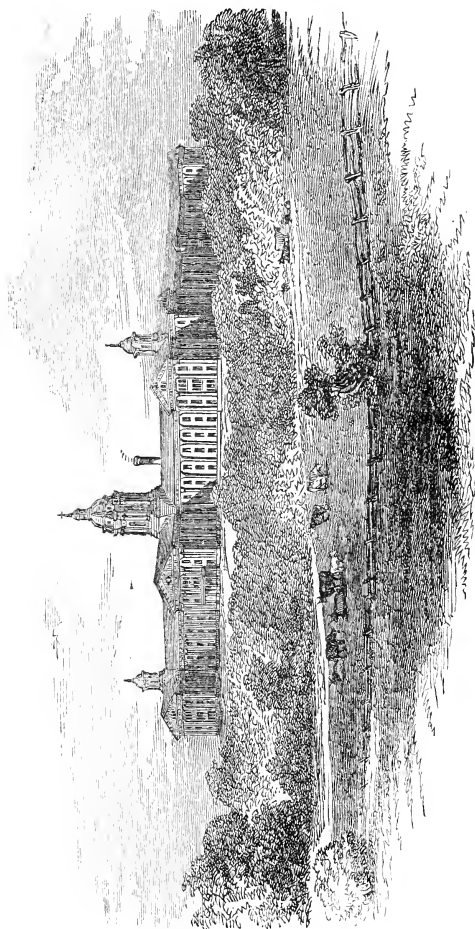
BRISTOL COUNTY. — CITIES OF TAUNTON, FALL RIVER, AND  
NEW BEDFORD. — OTHER TOWNS.

WEST of Plymouth county is the county of Bristol. The western side of this county lies along the State of Rhode Island. Much of the land is flat and sandy. The county is watered by Taunton river, and several other smaller streams. As Taunton river approaches the sea, it spreads out into a bay, called Mount Hope bay. The greater part of this bay is in the State of Rhode Island. The shire town in Bristol county is the city of Taunton, the head of navigation on Taunton river, a pleasant and flourishing place. Here are a large number of cotton factories, paper mills, nail factories, and iron works. Very beautiful britannia ware is made here. A large asylum for the insane has been erected here at the expense of the State. Taunton is thirty-five miles south from Boston.

The city of Fall River, in the southern part of the county, is one of the greatest manufacturing towns in the State. About two miles east of the town are some large ponds, which empty through Fall river into Taunton river. The fall is more than a hundred and thirty feet, and furnishes water power to carry a large number of factories.

Fall river is also a seaport, and a large steamboat which





Hospital, Taunton.

connects with the Old Colony railroad runs from it every evening to New York, and another arrives from New York every morning in time to take the railroad for Boston.

The city of New Bedford, in the southeast corner of the county, is a very handsome and flourishing town. It is built on the west side of an inlet from Buzzard's bay, which makes a fine deep harbor. A great many large ships are owned here; and New Bedford is largely engaged in the whale fisheries, and in the manufacture of spermaceti candles. It stands on ground that rises rapidly from the shore; and when approached by water or sea from the opposite shore of the harbor, presents a fine appearance. It is laid out with much regularity, the streets crossing each other at right angles, that is, so as to make squares, either exact squares or oblong squares. The buildings are mostly of wood, though some of the finest are of brick and stone. Those in the upper part of the town have ornamental grounds, and gardens that are very beautiful to look at. Fairhaven, opposite New Bedford, and connected with it by a bridge, is also a flourishing town.

Pawtucket, separated from Rhode Island by the Pawtucket river, is a considerable manufacturing place. Attleborough, north of Pawtucket, is famous for the manufacture of clocks, straw bonnets, and jewelry.

I shall say nothing here about Duke's county and Nantucket, because I have already described them in giving an account of the islands of Massachusetts.

---

In what part of the State is Bristol county? What other State does it touch? What river waters it, and what is said of this river? What is the

## LETTER XXXVI.

EASTERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES. — WORCESTER COUNTY. —  
CITY OF WORCESTER AND OTHER TOWNS.

THE nine counties, Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Plymouth, Barnstable, Bristol, Duke's county, and Nantucket, are called the eastern counties. They all touch the sea, and many of the people who live in them are engaged more or less in commerce and the fisheries. This is the oldest part of the State; it is much more thickly settled than the other parts, and has more large towns. The other five counties are called the western counties. They do not touch the sea. They have no seaports or ships, and the people are mostly farmers. There is, however, in Worcester and Hampden counties, a good deal of manufacturing business.

Worcester county is near the middle of the State, and extends from one side of it to the other, touching the State of New Hampshire on the north, and the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island on the south. This county is, in some parts, rough and hilly, and has many ponds and rivers. Five considerable rivers have their heads

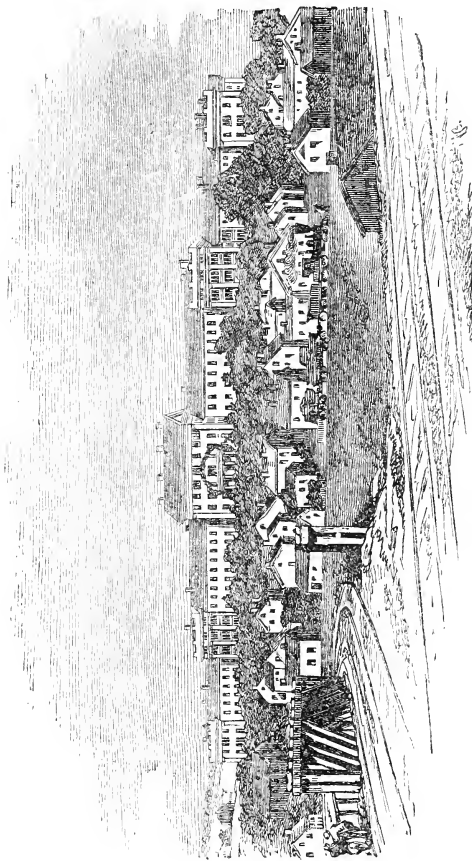
---

shire town, and what is said of it? Where is Fall River, and for what is it remarkable? Where is New Bedford, and what is said of it? What other towns are mentioned?

near the middle of it. You may look for them on the map. They and their branches afford much water power, by which many factories are carried. The land in this county is generally good for grass, or for grain. The hills make excellent pastures, where a great many cattle are fed; and great quantities of butter and cheese are made in this county.

The shire town is the city of Worcester. It is near the middle of the county, and forty miles west of Boston, and is one of the largest inland towns in the State. It is situated in a beautiful valley, in which several streams unite, and form the Blackstone river. There is one fine street, called Main street, more than a mile long, straight, broad, and shaded with fine trees. Towards the south end of this street is a handsome common. At the other end is the court-house, and the building belonging to the American Antiquarian society, which contains a large library and many curiosities. West of Main street the land rises into a beautiful hill, on which are many fine buildings. East of Main street it sinks into a valley, and then rises in another swell, on which is the State lunatic asylum, a very large building. The Roman Catholic college has a fine situation on a rounded hill southwest of the city. Five railroads, extending east, west, south, southeast, and north, centre at Worcester, and connect it with all parts of the county and the State.

Leicester, six miles southwest of Worcester, is a considerable town. Here is a respectable academy, which has been established many years, a large cotton factory, a scythe factory, and an establishment for making cards.

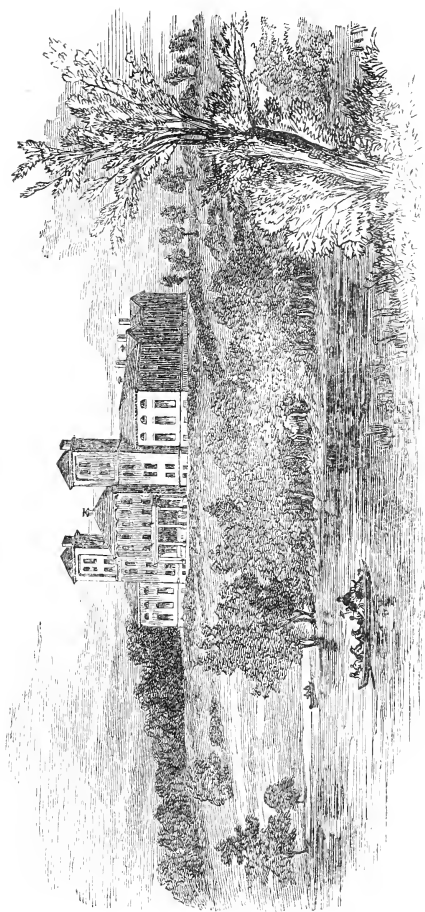


Insane Asylum, Worcester.

Lancaster, fifteen miles northeast of Worcester, is the oldest town in the county; it is situated at the meeting of two large branches of Nashua river, and along their banks is some very rich and beautiful interval. There is at Lancaster an industrial school for girls. It is designed for the instruction and the reformation of poor unfortunate girls who have done something wrong, for which they might be sent to jail or the house of correction; or who, from their bad dispositions, or the temptations to which they are exposed, might be likely to do something wrong. There is a similar school for boys at Westborough, called the State reform school. Westborough is a beautiful farming town, twelve miles east of the city of Worcester. These two schools, that in Lancaster and that in Westborough, are supported partly by money given by benevolent persons, and partly at the expense of the State. It is certainly a great deal better to take those poor children and try to make them better, and to put them in the way of getting an honest living, than to leave them to grow up thieves and vagabonds, as they otherwise might do. But I do hope none of you children will ever be so bad, or so destitute of friends to take care of you, as to be sent to these schools.

Leominster, near Lancaster, is remarkable for the manufacture of combs, and Sterling for chairs and hats. There are large factories of cotton and woollen cloths at Clinton and Fitchburg, on a branch of the Nashua.

Millbury, Grafton, Milford, Uxbridge, and Blackstone, in the southeast part of the county, are also important



Farm School at Westborough.

manufacturing towns. They derive their water power from Blackstone river and its branches. At Mendon, near by, is one of the State alms-houses.

---

Which of the counties are called the eastern counties ? What are the other five counties called ? What is said of the eastern counties ? What of the western ? Where is Worcester county ? What is said of it ? What is the shire town, and what is said of it ? Where is Lancaster, and what is said of it ? For what are Leominster and Sterling remarkable ? Are there any factories in this county, and where ?



## LETTER XXXVII.

FRANKLIN COUNTY. -- GREENFIELD AND OTHER TOWNS.

WEST of Worcester lie the three counties of Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden. They formerly made but one county, called Hampshire. Through the middle of these three counties the Connecticut river passes, and on its banks are found much excellent land, and many fine towns. Back from the river on both sides the land becomes hilly; in some places it is rocky; in others there are large sandy plains; but generally the soil is fertile and well cultivated.

Franklin, on its northern side, touches the States of New Hampshire and Vermont. As you descend the Connecticut, the first town in the county, on the eastern bank of the river, is Northfield. Here is a handsome village, consisting of one street, about a mile long. A great part of this town is excellent land, particularly the meadows, or interval.

Farther down the river, on the other side, is Greenfield, the shire town of the county. This is a beautiful and flourishing town. The village is on a high plain. It has two streets which cross each other. The houses are generally handsome, some of them elegant, and several of them of brick. Greenfield is about a hundred miles

northwesterly from Boston. Next below Greenfield is Deerfield. Deerfield river, a large and beautiful stream, winds through the town, and passing through a large tract of the richest interval in Massachusetts falls into the Connecticut. A steep hill, called Deerfield mountain, separates Deerfield meadows from the Connecticut river. The prospect of these meadows, from the top of this mountain, just behind the village, is very fine. The people are mostly farmers. They have a small piece of land about their houses, called the home lot, while the rest of their farms lie at some distance. The same thing is common in other towns on the Connecticut.

Opposite to Deerfield, on the other side of the river, is Montague. These two towns are joined together by a bridge across the Connecticut. In Montague the Connecticut runs down a rocky and steep place, where the water foams and looks as white as snow. This place is known by the name of Montague Falls. Around these falls is a canal, that boats may pass up and down.

---

What three counties west of Worcester ? What river passes through these counties ? What is said of the land and the towns on the river ? What is said of the land at a distance from the river ? What States does Franklin county touch on the north side ? Where is Northfield, and what is said of it ? Where is Greenfield, and what is said of it ? What is said of Deerfield ? Of Montague, and the falls ?

## LETTER XXXVIII.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY. — NORTHAMPTON AND OTHER TOWNS.

SOUTH of Franklin county is Hampshire. Hatfield and Hadley are fine towns on the Connecticut, very much like the river towns which I have already described.

Northampton, the shire town of the county, is one of the most beautiful country towns in the State. It is on the west side of the Connecticut, near the middle of the county. Mount Tom and Mount Holyoke, which are near by, give much beauty to the scenery. The land is interval and rich. The village is built on ten streets, that stretch out from one centre. Here is a large hospital for the insane, built by the State. This town is connected with Hadley, on the other side of the river, by a fine bridge, supported on six stone piers. Northampton is ninety-five miles west from Boston.

Eight miles northeast of Northampton is Amherst, a fertile and beautiful town. Here is a college, called Amherst college. The college buildings are delightfully situated on a swell of land, presenting an extensive prospect to the west over the valley of the Connecticut. At Ware, in the southeast corner of the county, are large cotton and woollen manufactories.

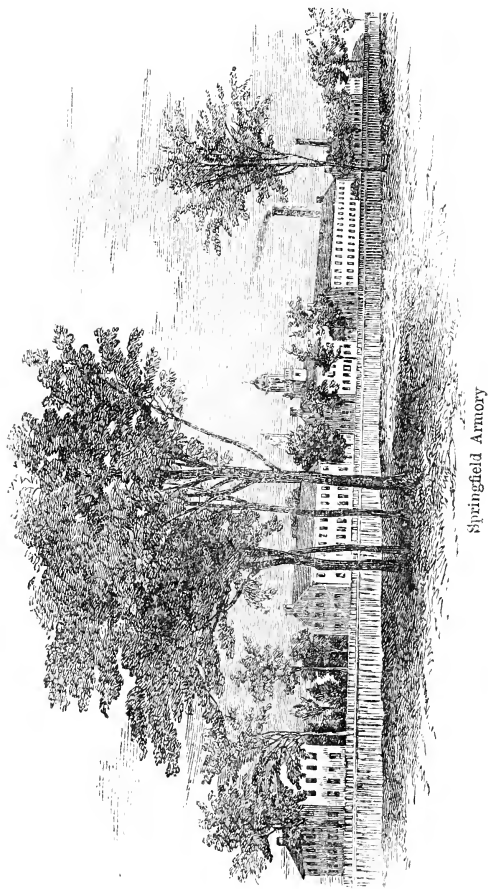
---

What county lies south of Franklin? What is the shire town, and what is said of it? Where is Amherst, and what is said of it? What college and schools are here? Where is Ware, and for what is it remarkable?

## LETTER XXXIX.

### HAMPDEN COUNTY.—CITY OF SPRINGFIELD AND OTHER TOWNS.

SOUTH of Hampshire is Hampden county, which touches the State of Connecticut. The city of Springfield, on the east side of Connecticut river, is the shire town, and a fine town it is. It is built on a rich piece of high interval. Back from the river is a high sloping bank, which runs about the same course with the river. On this bank are many handsome houses, which overlook the rest of the town. At the top of the bank begins a sandy plain, which extends back several miles. Below this bank is the principal street, which runs three miles along the river. The buildings are all neat, and many of them are elegant. Here are a court house, a jail, an elegant city hall, and a fine bridge, connecting the city with West Springfield. The Western railroad crosses the Connecticut on another bridge, and the depot and other railroad buildings are very large. The United States have an extensive armory here. An armory is a place where guns are made or kept. West Springfield, on the opposite side of the Connecticut, is a pleasant and fruitful town. Westfield is a very pleasant and flourishing town on the Westfield river. The county of Hampden is well watered by the Chicopee and Westfield rivers. The town of Chico-



Springfield Armory

pee, near the mouth of that river, and adjoining Springfield, is a large manufacturing place. At Holyoke, nine miles from Springfield, is a great fall in the Connecticut river. A dam has been built here, a canal dug, and several large factories placed upon it. The water power is very great, and it is expected that Holyoke will become a great manufacturing place. There are also factories at Palmer, in the eastern part of the county.

---

Where is the county of Hampden ? Which is the shire town, and what is said of it ? What remarkable establishments are here ? What rivers flow through this county ? Where are Chicopee, Holyoke, and Palmer, and what is said of them ?

## LETTER XL.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY. — LENOX, PITTSFIELD, AND OTHER TOWNS.

THE most western county of Massachusetts is Berkshire. It runs across the whole breadth of the State. On the north it touches Vermont, on the south it touches Connecticut, and along its western side is the State of New York. Berkshire, as I have told you before, is very hilly, and in some places mountainous. All hilly countries have many ponds, and brooks, and rivers; and, by looking on the map, you will see that four considerable rivers and a great many smaller ones have their sources or heads in this county. The soil of this county is generally excellent.

The shire town is Lenox, one hundred and twenty-five miles west from Boston, and pleasantly situated on the Housatonic river. The village is on a gentle slope, and on one principal street. The place is almost surrounded by mountains, and the scenery is beautiful. Iron ore is found here in great abundance, and white marble is so plentiful as to be used for door-steps. Large quarries of it are worked in various places.

North of Lenox, in a fertile valley where two rivers meet to form the Housatonic, is Pittsfield. In the centre of the town is a beautiful village; the rest of it is divided

into rich and well cultivated farms. Here is the Berkshire Medical Institution, where young men study medicine and learn to be physicians.

In the northwest corner of the county, at the meeting of two branches of the Hoosick river, is Williamstown. The Hoosick runs northwest into the State of Vermont; afterward it passes into New York, and empties into the Hudson, a great river of that State. At Williamstown is a large and handsome village; and here, too, is Williams' college, founded by Colonel Ephraim Williams, a worthy gentleman who lived more than a hundred years ago.

There are five colleges in Massachusetts: Harvard University, Williams' college, Amherst college, Tufts' college, and the Catholic college. Any youth who chooses to study may get a very good education at either of them.

Stockbridge, south of Lenox, is a pleasant and fertile town, situated on the Housatonic. At North Adams are important manufacturing establishments for cotton and other goods.

---

Where is Berkshire, and what is said of it? What is the shire town, and what is said of it? Where is Pittsfield, and what is said of it? Where is Williamstown, and what college is there? Where is Stockbridge?



## LETTER XLI.

OUR TRAVELS OVER THE STATE.—HOW DIFFERENT IT WAS  
BEFORE THE WHITE PEOPLE CAME.

I SUPPOSE that by this time you are almost tired with reading about towns. No wonder if such little folks should be tired with travelling all over the State, for, you see, we have been from one end of Massachusetts to the other, and have stopped at all the principal towns on the way. I do not expect you will remember what I have told you about the different towns, by reading my letters once or twice over. If you wish to remember them, you must read them over a great many times, and look out all the towns on the map, and study very carefully to answer the questions. I do not suppose that all my letters will please you alike ; but then you must consider, that those letters which are not the most pleasant to read may be the most important to be remembered.

It is very necessary for every child of Massachusetts to know a good deal about the Commonwealth ; and it is for this reason that I have taken the pains to write these letters. It is much easier, and commonly more pleasant, to read letters, than to write them ; but, as I hope you read carefully and study well what I write, I take great pleasure in writing. Nothing pleases a father more than

to find his children ready and willing to learn; and it is good news when he is told that they behave well at school, and are good scholars. I hope I shall always hear this of you.

You see, by what I have written in the preceding letters, that there are a great many fine cities and towns, and beautiful villages, and well cultivated farms, and handsome houses, and large factories, scattered over the State. There are wharves, ships, warehouses, and railroads; there are schools, colleges, and churches; and there are a great many other things which make Massachusetts a very pleasant land. But two hundred and fifty years ago there were no such things in the State. It was nearly all one great forest, and nothing lived in it but bears and other wild beasts, and Indians almost as wild as the beasts. You will like very well to hear about Massachusetts as it used to be before the white people came to it, and about their first settling here. I will tell you something of these things in my next letter.

## LETTER XLII.

### THE INDIANS WHO USED TO LIVE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

I HAVE already told you that the white people first came to Massachusetts more than two hundred years ago. Before they came hither, the only people of the country were Indians. The Indians were a tall, well-formed, active people. They had long, black, straight hair, black eyes, and very white, handsome teeth. Their color was brown, a little inclining to red. Their dress was made of the skins of wild beasts, but in warm weather they went almost naked. They used to paint their bodies, and especially their faces, with black, red, and white paint. They wore a sort of shoes on their feet, called moccasins, made of the skin of the deer, and ornamented very prettily with shells, feathers, and beads. They lived in low, smoky huts, called wigwams, which were made in a rude manner of small trees and bushes, and covered with bark, or mats. The wigwam had but one room, and no chimney. The fire was made in the middle, and the smoke went out through an open place in the top. The floor of the wigwam was the ground; but the Indians laid down mats and skins to sleep on, especially in cold weather. They slept with the feet towards the fire. The Indians had no tame animals about their dwellings. They had no convenient furniture, nor utensils for cooking or eat-

ing. They had no chairs, stools, nor tables; they had no pots nor kettles, except such as were made of clay. These kettles would not bear the fire, and they boiled their meat by filling them with water, and putting red hot stones into it. They roasted their fish or meat on the bare coals, and held it in their fingers to eat it. They had no salt to eat with their food, and very few vegetables. They raised a few squashes and beans, a little corn and a few other things; but these made up but a small part of their food. They parched their corn and pounded it into meal for bread, which they baked on a flat stone by the fire.

The Indians had no iron; all their tools were made either of stone, of sea-shells, of bone, or of hard wood. They cut down trees as well as they could with their poor stone axes. They killed birds and beasts with the bow and arrow, or caught them in a sort of trap. Their arrow-heads were made of stone, their bow-strings of the sinews of the deer. They caught fish with a hook made of bone, or else in a sort of net. They had no ploughs nor hoes. They dug the earth with a stick or clam-shell. The women did the work on the ground, and the men did the hunting and fishing. The Indians were a very ignorant people. They had no books. They could not read nor write a single word. They knew nothing about letters. They knew nothing about the true God and Saviour; and all their thoughts of the future state, that is, the state after death, were very erroneous.

The Indians lived together in tribes, and commonly built their towns by the sides of rivers, ponds, or lakes.

An Indian town was only a few wigwams, built near each other. There were three large tribes of Indians in Massachusetts, and a great many small ones ; but the whole State, I should think, did not contain as many Indians as there are people now in the smallest city in the State.

The Indians made very pretty little boats of birch bark, called canoes, in which they sailed on ponds and rivers, and along the shore of the sea. They also made beautiful little baskets of the twigs of trees, to put their corn and other things in, and mats to sleep on. The Indians were fond of smoking tobacco, and made convenient pipes of stone. They made bows of ash or walnut, which they used in hunting. They made a kind of beads of a shell which they found on the seashore. These beads they strung together, and out of the strings they made belts. These belts were often very pretty. The beads were called wampum. There were three kinds of wampum, black, red, and white. The Indians valued it highly, and used it as money.

The country was covered all over with thick, dark woods, except in the places where the Indians had their little towns. In the woods were a great number of wild beasts and birds, which the Indians hunted. It was a dismal country to look at ; but the poor Indians liked it, because it was their home, and they knew of no better country.

---

How long since the only people in Massachusetts were Indians ? What is said of the size and appearance of the Indians ? What was their dress made of ? What sort of houses had they ? How did they get a living ? What were their tools made of ? What is said of their towns ? How many Indians were there in Massachusetts ?

## LETTER XLIII.

### WILD ANIMALS THAT USED TO BE HERE.

THE large animals which the Indians used to hunt were the moose, the deer, and the bear.

The moose is a large, tall, and rather ugly animal; but the deer is very beautiful. The flesh of both is good for food, and is called venison. They feed upon grass and herbs in the summer, and upon the buds and bark of trees in the winter. They are very fond of the beautiful white lily that grows in ponds, called the pond lily. There used to be great herds of them in Massachusetts, feeding in the summer on the meadows along the rivers. The moose is as tall as a horse, and has small, straight legs, with hoofs like a sheep. He can run very fast, and when he runs his hoofs make a loud clattering noise. The male has very large branching horns, and, what is very remarkable, the horns fall off every year and new ones grow out again. The female has no horns, and is much smaller than the male. The moose is of a dark gray or black color.

The deer that used to be in this State was the red deer; its shape was something like that of the moose, but it was much smaller and more slender, as well as much more beautiful.

The moose and the deer were very useful to the Indians. Their flesh was excellent food; their skins were used to make moccasins, belts, and other articles of clothing; and their horns were made into spoons and ladles. In the woods on Cape Cod, I believe there are still a few deer left.

There were two kinds of bears in Massachusetts, the black bear and the brown bear. They were as big as a large hog. The black bear had short legs, and was generally very fat. He did not eat flesh; but lived on tender roots and plants, corn, berries, and grapes. The brown bear is sometimes called the ranging bear. He had longer legs, and a leaner body than the black bear. He used to catch the deer and other smaller animals and feed on their flesh. The bears of both kinds were very fond of honey.

The bear has a coarse, shaggy hide, his form is rude, and his step heavy and awkward. His feet have sharp claws, and he can climb the highest tree with great ease. With his fore paws he can strike a dreadful blow. He can rear himself upright on his hind feet, and can squeeze a man to death by clasping him with his fore legs. The bear loves to be alone, and chooses his den in some lonely mountain or deep forest. Here he passes the greater part of the winter without stirring out. He lies and sleeps and sucks his paws, all winter long, and comes out very lean in the spring. The flesh of the bear is good, and his skin was very useful to the Indians. They caught the bear in a trap made of two logs.

---

What large animals did the Indians use to hunt? What is said of the moose? What is said of the deer? What use did the Indians make of their

## LETTER XLIV.

### OTHER WILD ANIMALS.

BESIDES the animals which I wrote about in my last letter, there were many others that lived in the woods, when there were no people in Massachusetts but the Indians.

The wolf used to be very common. His color was a sort of yellowish gray, with a dark stripe on the back. His shape was like that of the dog. He used to catch other animals, like the ranging bear. When the white people first came into Massachusetts, the wolf and ranging bear were very troublesome. They would catch lambs, calves, and pigs, and sometimes children; but at last the woods were chiefly cut down, and the bears and wolves were killed, or driven away.

The most terrible of all the wild beasts of Massachusetts was the catamount. He was nearly as large as a bear. He looked like a monstrous great dark-colored cat. He had large, shining eyes, sharp teeth, and great paws, with long sharp nails. He could not run very fast,

---

skins? Of their horns? How many kinds of bears were there? What is said of the black bear? What is said of the brown bear? Where does the bear choose his den? How does he pass the winter?



but he could leap to a great distance with astonishing swiftness. He used to climb trees and jump upon the deer as they passed by. He would kill them and suck their blood. The catamount, the wolf, the ranging bear, and many other beasts, are called beasts of prey, because they feed on other animals.

Of the smaller wild animals, such as the fox, the wild-cat, the raccoon, the otter, the mink, the muskrat, the rabbit, the squirrel, there were a great many. The flesh of some of them is good, and others have very fine fur. Many of them still remain in the State ; but they are very scarce in the old towns, and their numbers are lessening every year.

There was one very curious animal which used to be abundant in Massachusetts, but which I have not yet described,—I mean the beaver. The beaver is about as large as a small dog, with short legs and a broad flat tail. He has two very long and sharp fore teeth, with which he gnaws down poplars and willows, and other soft trees. The beavers live on roots, young wood, and the bark of trees. In the summer they wander about the meadows and thickets. But in the autumn they collect together, and build houses to live in during the winter. Beavers can swim and dive very well, and can live some time under water. They choose a place for their winter dwelling on the banks of a stream. Here they form a pond by building a dam across the stream. The dam is made of wood that drifts down the stream, of young willows, birches, and poplars, which the beavers gnaw down, and of stones and mud which they bring in their mouths or

between their paws. They make this dam very strong and thick. The dam stops the water and so makes a pond. On the edge of this pond the beavers build their houses, partly in the water and partly out of it. The houses are built of sticks and mud, and have regular arched roofs, and sometimes are two or three stories high. They are of various sizes, according to the number of beavers that live in them. Five or six beavers live in some of the houses, ten or twelve in others, and some have twenty or thirty. These houses stand round the edge of the pond, forming a little village. The houses all have two entrances. One of them is under the water, so that when the pond is frozen the beavers can go under the ice; the other entrance communicates with the land. The beavers do not build a new dam and new houses every year; they often repair the old ones where they have lived before, and live there again.

About the end of summer, the beavers cut down their wood, and collect their bark and roots. These they float down the river, and keep under the water to live on during the winter. When they eat they sit on their hind legs like a squirrel, and hold their food between their paws. When disturbed they plunge into the water, uttering a loud cry, and flapping the ground and the water with their tails. There used to be a great abundance of beavers in Massachusetts, and the Indians used to hunt them for the sake of their fur, which is very soft and glossy.

I have now given you an account of the most important brute animals that used to live in Massachusetts

before the white people came hither. There were then no oxen, nor cows, nor hogs, nor sheep, nor horses, in the State. These are all very useful animals; and we should find it very difficult to live comfortably without them. But the poor Indians had none of them; they were brought hither by the white people.

Nearly all the different sorts of birds that used to be in Massachusetts, when the Indians lived here, are still found in the State. The principal of them are the wild turkey, the wild goose, the wild duck, and the pigeon. The flesh of these birds is very good. Pigeons are shot, or caught in nets, but they are not half so abundant as they used to be; and the wild turkey is only found in some of the mountains in Berkshire. What we call tame, or domestic fowls, except the turkey, were brought hither by the white people.

This is a pretty long letter; but I dare say you will like it well enough to find the answers to all the questions I am going to ask.

---

What is said of the wolf? What mischief did the wolves and bears use to do? What has become of them? What was the most terrible wild beast in Massachusetts? What did he look like? What else is said of him? Why are some beasts called beasts of prey? What is said of the smaller wild animals that used to live in Massachusetts? What is said of the beaver? What is said of the houses in which they passed the winter? What did the beaver live on? For what did the Indians hunt the beaver? What is said of the birds of Massachusetts?

## LETTER XLV.

### INDIAN WARS. — SETTLEMENT OF WHITE MEN IN MASSACHUSETTS.

BEFORE the white people came to live in Massachusetts, the Indians were about as wild as any of the wild animals. They used to have wars among themselves. Some of the strongest and bravest men in each tribe had the command, and were called sachems. They were very cruel in their wars. They used to kill the women and children, and scalp them; that is, cut off a piece from the top of the head with the hair on. When they took any of the men alive, they used to tie them to a stake and burn them to death. This was horrid. It is very wicked to make war; but the Indians were not so much to blame for it as the white people are, for they were ignorant and knew no better.

When the white people first came to Massachusetts they lived very poorly, and had to work very hard for a long time. They came from England, on the other side of the great Atlantic ocean. England is about three thousand miles from Massachusetts, and is a part of Europe. They came over in ships, and were a great many days on the water. The first people who settled in Massachusetts came in a ship named the Mayflower. They

landed at Plymouth, which, you remember, is the oldest town in the State. There were one hundred and one of them. They landed in November, just as the winter began. They suffered so much from cold, and from want of proper food, that before the next spring forty-five of them died. These people, soon after they landed, made a league or agreement with the neighboring Indians, and lived in peace with them more than fifty years. This settlement was called the Plymouth colony. A colony is a number of people who go away from home to settle in a distant country. The first governor of Plymouth colony was Mr. John Carver.

Eight years after the settlement of Plymouth, Captain Endicott came over from England, with a number of people, and made a settlement at Salem. A number of people engaged in the fisheries, and connected with a Mr. Conant, had two years before removed from Cape Ann into the neighborhood of what is now called Salem. Two years after, seventeen ships sailed from England, containing fifteen hundred persons. They landed at Salem and Charlestown; but many of them soon removed to Boston, while others settled in Watertown, Dorchester, Roxbury, Cambridge, Medford, and Lynn. Plymouth, Salem, and Boston, may be considered as the three mother towns of Massachusetts. Charlestown was indeed settled soon after Salem, and more than a year before Boston; but most of the settlers moved into Boston, which soon became the chief place in the colony.

Plymouth was called Accomack by the Indians. Salem was called Naumkeag. Boston was called Shawmut.

The people of Salem and the people of Boston had the same governor, and were called the colony of Massachusetts Bay. Their first governor was John Winthrop. So, you see, there were two colonies in Massachusetts when the State was first settled, the colony of Plymouth and the colony of Massachusetts Bay. Each colony had its own governor. About seventy years after the State was first settled, the two colonies were united into one, and then there was only one governor for both. Plymouth colony contained what are now the counties of Plymouth, Bristol, and Barnstable; and these counties are still spoken of sometimes as the Old Colony. Soon after the towns above mentioned were settled, more people came over from England and settled in other neighboring towns. They cut down the trees and planted corn; they built houses and mills. They cleared the trees and bushes from the land, and raised grain and grass. They had cattle, sheep, horses, and hogs, brought over from England. They made roads, bridges, and fences; they built meeting-houses, and had ministers; they built school-houses, and had teachers; and did a great deal besides to make Massachusetts a pleasant land to live in.

---

What is said of the Indian wars? In what part of Massachusetts did the white people first settle? What is said of the Plymouth colony? Who was the first governor? Where was the second settlement in Massachusetts made? What town was settled next to Salem? Who was the first governor? How many colonies were there in Massachusetts when it was first settled, and what were they called? When were they united into one?

## LETTER XLVI.

INTERCOURSE BETWEEN THE INDIANS AND WHITE PEOPLE. —  
WARS. — THE INDIANS DESTROYED, OR DRIVEN AWAY. —  
COLORED PEOPLE.

For many years after the white people came, they generally lived in peace with the Indians. The Indians were kind to the white people, and the white people were kind to them. The Indians sold the skins of the deer, and bear, and beaver, to the white people, and bought blankets. These blankets they tied over their shoulders, and wore them as a dress. They also bought iron hatchets of the white people, which were much better than their own hatchets. They also bought knives and kettles.

The Indians were very fond of looking-glasses, and glass beads, and other such trifles; and they would give away furs worth a great deal in exchange for them. At first the Indians were very much afraid of the guns which the white people had. They did not know what to make of them. But after a while they bought guns, and learned to use them as well as the white men.

After some time, when the white people had increased, and one town was settled after another, the Indians began to think that the white people would get away all their land. Then they were very sorry that they ever

let the white people come hither to live; and they made wars with the white people. They used to watch and shoot the white people as they went out into the fields to work, or as they were travelling or going to meeting. They used to come in the night and set the houses on fire, and kill the cattle, and the men, women, and children. They would likewise very often take the white people prisoners, and carry them away into the wilderness. The Indians would sometimes kill or take captive nearly all the people in a town, burn down all the houses, cut down all the fruit trees, and destroy everything they could. But the white people understood how to make war better than the Indians; and though the Indians did a great deal of mischief, they were commonly beaten at last. After a while, the white people became so strong that they killed and drove away almost all the poor Indians; and now there are not more than a thousand Indians in the State. These are scattered about in different places; but most of them live in Barnstable county and Dukes county. They are a poor, weak, miserable people; and not at all like the fierce Indians that used to be in Massachusetts.

In Massachusetts there are also, besides these Indians, several thousand other people, called colored people, because their skin is very dark. They are found in small numbers in almost all parts of the State. Many of them are industrious, sober, and well behaved, and get a comfortable living. Their children go to school, and learn to read, write, and cipher, like the white children. These colored people have descended from persons who were



brought a great many years ago from Africa, a very large and hot country on the other side of the great ocean. All the people of Africa are black or dark-colored. The colored people of Massachusetts were once slaves. They were bought and sold by the white people, and made to work for them. But the white people of Massachusetts now think it is wicked to buy and sell men. They think all men are born free and equal; therefore the law of the State forbids slavery.

---

How did the white people live with the Indians for many years? What was the cause of the wars with the Indians? What finally became of the Indians? What is said of colored people in Massachusetts? From whom have they descended? What formerly was their condition in this State? Are there now any slaves in Massachusetts? Why is not slavery allowed?

## LETTER XLVII.

### MORE ABOUT THE INDIANS.

It seems to be a great pity that the Indians and the white people could not have lived peaceably together till now. If the Indians were still here, it seems as if we might do a great deal to teach and to comfort them; but they are all gone, except the few which I mentioned in my last letter. When I say that the Indians are gone, I mean gone from Massachusetts. In some other States there are many Indians still living; and good white people are trying to teach them how to plough, and hoe, and raise grain; how to build good warm houses; how to spin, and weave, and make good clothes; how to read and write and cipher; but, above all things, they are trying to teach them to behave well, to read the Bible, and live as God requires. You ought to be very glad that good people are trying to teach the poor Indians so many things; and be willing to give something, if you have it to spare, to support and assist them in doing all the good they can to the poor Indians. I am very happy to say, that in many places the Indians are beginning to improve. Some Indian children are learning to read, and write, and cipher, like the children of Massachusetts. And some young and elderly people among the Indians are pious Christians.

You ought to be thankful that those terrible times are past, when parents were in continual fear for their own lives and the lives of their children ; when the men were afraid to go to work in their fields without carrying their guns ; and when families dreaded to see the sun go down lest the Indians should come in the night and murder and scalp them, or carry them away into captivity. In those terrible times children fared very differently from what they now do. They were not clothed, nor fed so well as they now are ; they had but few schools to go to, and there was not an academy in all the State. It is very different now. The Massachusetts children now have all the advantages they can reasonably ask, and I hope they will not fail to improve them.

## LETTER XLVIII.

### CONCLUSION. — ADVICE.

I HAVE now written a large number of letters to you, which I trust you have read with pleasure and profit; and which I wish you to read again and again, till you remember the principal matters they contain. If you thus read and remember, you will have a very good knowledge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and you will be very likely to be pleased with reading about other States and countries. Children that love books commonly acquire a good education; and, if their behaviour is good, they are sure to make their parents and friends very happy. I shall now finish this course of letters by some reflections and advice, which I hope you will be disposed to read with great attention.

From the letters I have written concerning the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you have learned that the people of this State are highly favored. God has given us a good land, and we ought to be very thankful for it. With diligence and economy, everybody who is able to work can get a comfortable living. Parents can provide food, and clothing, and houses for themselves and their children; and no person in the State has need to suffer for want of the necessaries of life.

But the principal things that make Massachusetts a good land to live in, are these: We have the Bible, which teaches the will of God, and the way of salvation by Jesus Christ. We have the Sabbath, or Lord's Day, which affords the people an opportunity for meeting together to worship God, and to hear the Gospel preached. We have schools of various kinds, at which our sons and daughters may acquire so much good learning as to be fitted for useful employment. We have Sabbath-schools, for the instruction of children and young persons in the Bible, and in all their duty to God and mankind. We have a free and good government, which the people have established by their own authority and will; and we have good laws for the preservation of order, uprightness, and peace. All these good things we have; and my desire is, that you would love the Commonwealth, and do all you can to make it prosper.

But perhaps you may ask, What can children do to promote the welfare of the State? I will tell you. Children can remember their Creator and learn his will; they can avoid using profane and wicked language; they can honor their father and their mother; they can be kind and tender-hearted, modest and virtuous; they can be honest and true in all their dealings with others, and in all they say of them; they can avoid the sin of wishing to have what does not belong to them; and can be happy when they see others in possession of good things, which they themselves have not. Children can learn to say, and, by the help of God, they can learn to keep, the commandments. They can behave well at school, and make good

improvement in learning ; they can behave well at home, and be pleasant, useful, and faithful to their parents and friends. Children can be sorry for their sins. Whenever they have done wrong, they can consider the evil of it, and they can pray to God to forgive their sins, and help them to be good children. And He will help them, if they pray in sincerity. He will give the Holy Spirit to all who feel aright their need of His help. The Bible teaches us to pray, because God hears and answers prayer ; and in all ages of the world, those who have sincerely desired and endeavored to do His will, have been assisted in doing it.

Now, if the children of Massachusetts were all good, and behaved toward God, toward their parents, toward one another, and toward all persons, as children ought to behave, then we should have the happiest Commonwealth on the face of the earth. Such children, when grown up, would be good men and women. They would be friends to religion, friends to good ministers, friends to schools and good learning, friends to their country, and friends to all mankind.

I suppose you are satisfied that a Commonwealth made up of good people must be happy and prosperous ; but then you are old enough to know that there are many wicked people in Massachusetts, and that there are many children who are naughty, and who are very likely to be wicked persons when they are grown up. This is true ; but it is no good reason why you should be naughty and wicked. It is rather a reason why you should be as good a child as you possibly can ; and I do earnestly hope that

you will love what is good, and do what is right. Some children are naughty from want of instruction ; but you must remember that you have had instruction, and if you behave ill it will not be for want of knowing your duty. Ill conduct in you will be the more sinful on account of the good instruction you have had. Jesus Christ has said, "That servant which knew his Lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes ; for unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." You cannot be happy in this world, nor in the world to come, if you are wicked ; and I entreat you to remember, that without holiness no man can see the Lord.

Finally, my child, it is my prayer, in submission to God's will, that your life and health may be preserved ; that you may live to a good old age, and be prospered in the world ; but my prayer especially is, that you may be so pious, worthy, and useful a person, that all acquainted with you may have reason to love and esteem you ; and, when at length you shall die, that they may be comforted by the words, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord : they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

AN AFFECTIONATE FATHER.

# POPULATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE TOWNS AND COUNTIES OF MASSACHUSETTS, IN 1830.

SUFFOLK.		MIDDLESEX.			
Boston	61,392	Charlestown	8,783	Groton	1,925
Chelsea	770	Medford	1,755	Littleton	947
	<hr/>	Malden	2,010	Carlisle	566
	62,162	Woburn	1,977	Chelmsford	1,387
ESSEX.		Stoncham	732	Lowell	6,474
Salisbury	2,519	Burlington	446	Dracut	1,615
Amesbury	2,445	Billerica	1,374	Westford	1,329
Newburyport	6,338	Wilmington	731	Tyngsborough	822
Newbury	3,603	Bedford	685	Dunstable	593
West Newbury	1,586	Reading North	1,806	Shirley	991
Bradford	1,856	South Reading	1,310	Pepperell	1,440
Rowley	2,044	Tewksbury	1,527	Townsend	1,506
Haverhill	3,912	Lexington	1,541	Ashby	1,240
Andover	4,540	West Cambridge	1,230		<hr/>
Ipswich	2,951	Concord	2,017		77,968
Methuen	2,011	Lincoln	709	PLYMOUTH.	
Topsfield	1,011	Sudbury	1,424	Hanson	1,030
Boxford	937	Stow	1,221	Hingham	3,357
Middleton	607	Boxborough	474	Hull	193
Saugus	960	Acton	1,128	Scituate	3,470
Lynn	6,138	Marlborough	2,074	Hanover	1,300
Danvers	4,228	Cambridge	6,071	Pembroke	1,324
Marblehead	5,150	Brighton	972	Marshfield	1,563
Lynnfield	617	Watertown	1,641	Duxbury	2,705
Salem	13,886	Waltham	1,857	Kingston	1,322
Beverly	4,079	Newton	2,377	Plymouth	4,751
Hamilton	743	Weston	1,091	Middleborough	5,008
Wenham	612	East Sudbury	944	Rochester	3,556
Manchester	1,238	Framingham	2,313	Wareham	1,885
Essex	1,345	Natick	890	Carver	970
Gloucester	7,513	Sherburne	900	Plympton	920
	<hr/>	Holliston	1,304	Halifax	708
	82,887	Hopkinton	1,800	Bridgewater	1,855
				North Bridgewater	1,953



West Bridgewater	1,042	Dartmouth	3,867	Athol	1,325
East do.	1,653			Phillipston	932
Abington	2,423		49,474	Gardner	1,028
		BARNSTABLE.		Paxton	597
	42,993	Sandwich	3,367	Leicester	1,782
NORFOLK.		Barnstable	3,975	Spencer	1,018
Sharon	1,024	Yarmouth	2,251	Brookfield	2,342
Stoughton	1,591	Falmouth	2,548	Western	1,189
Walpole	1,442	Eastham	966	Dudley	2,155
Foxborough	1,168	Provincetown	1,710	North Brookfield	1,241
Franklin	1,662	Dennis	2,317	Sturbridge	1,688
Wrentham	2,765	Truro	1,549	Charlton	2,173
Medway	1,766	Wellfleet	2,044	Oakham	1,010
Bellingham	1,101	Orleans	1,799	Hardwick	1,885
Dorchester	4,064	Chatham	2,134	New Braintree	825
Milton	1,565	Harwich	2,463	Dana	623
Quincy	2,192	Brewster	1,418	Southbridge	1,444
Braintree	1,752			Barre	2,503
Weymouth	2,839		28,525	Lancaster	2,016
Randolph	2,200	NANTUCKET		Westborough	994
Cohasset	1,227	DUKES.		West Boylston	1,053
Roxbury	5,259	Edgartown	1,509	Harvard	1,601
Brookline	1,041	Tisbury	1,318	Boylston	820
Dedham	3,117	Chilmark	691	Bolton	1,258
Needham	1,420			Berlin	692
Dover	497		3,518	Sterling	1,789
Medfield	817	WORCESTER.		Princeton	1,345
Canton	1,517	Sutton	2,186	Leominster	1,361
		Douglas	1,742	Lunenburg	1,318
	41,901	Uxbridge	2,086	Westminster	1,695
BRISTOL.		Northbridge	1,053	Fitchburg	2,179
Freetown	1,909	Mendon	3,152	Ashburnham	1,403
Troy	4,157	Milford	1,360	Notown	69
Westport	2,778	Grafton	1,839		
Berkley	907	Millbury	1,611		84,365
Taunton	6,045	Ward	690	HAMPSHIRE.	
Raynham	1,209	Oxford	2,034	Cumington	1,260
Easton	1,756	Upton	1,157	Worthington	1,178
Norton	1,484	Shrewsbury	1,386	Plainfield	983
Attleborough	3,215	Westborough	1,438	Easthampton	734
Mansfield	1,172	Southborough	1,080	Southampton	1,253
Pawtucket	1,458	Worcester	4,172	Westhampton	907
Seekonk	2,134	Holden	1,718	Williamsburgh	1,225
Dighton	1,737	Rutland	1,276	Goshen	606
Rehoboth	2,468	Hubbardston	1,674	Chesterfield	1,417
Somerset	1,024	Petersham	1,695	Norwich	787
Swansey	1,677	Winchendon	1,463	Middlefield	721
Fairhaven	3,034	Royalston	1,494	Northampton	3,313
New Bedford	7,529	Templeton	1,551	Hatfield	893

Hadley	1,686	FRANKLIN.		Mt. Washington	354
South Hadley	1,185	Ashfield	1,732	Boston Corner	64
Granby	1,064	Buckland	1,039	Sandisfield	1,655
Belchertown	2,491	Barnardston	945	New Marlboro'	1,656
Enfield	1,056	Charlemont	1,065	Windsor	1,042
Greenwich	813	Colerain	1,877	Florida	454
Ware	2,045	Conway	1,563	Savoy	928
Pelham	904	Deerfield	2,003	Dalton	791
Amherst	2,631	Gill	864	Zoar	129
Prescot	758	Greenfield	1,540	Gr. Barrington	2,276
		Hawley	1,037	Alford	512
	30,210	Heath	1,199	W. Stockbridge	1,208
HAMPDEN.		Leyden	796	Williamstown	2,137
West Springfield	3,272	Munroe	265	Lee	1,825
Westfield	2,941	Rowe	716	Stockbridge	1,580
Granville	1,649	Shelburne	995	Becket	1,065
Tolland	724	Whately	1,111	Lenox	1,356
Blandford	1,591	Orange	880	Tyringham	1,351
Russell	509	Wendell	875	Otis	1,014
Montgomery	579	Warwick	1,150	New Ashford	285
Chester	1,406	Leverett	939	Washington	701
Southwick	1,355	New Salem	1,889	Hinsdale	780
Holland	453	Northfield	1,757	Peru	729
Wales	665	Montague	1,152	Richmond	844
Brimfield	1,599	Sunderland	666	Hancock	1,053
Monson	2,264	Shutesbury	987	Lanesboro'	1,192
Palmer	1,237	Erving's Grant	429	Cheshire	1,049
Ludlow	1,327			Adams	2,648
Springfield	6,784		29,344	Clarksburg	315
Longmeadow	1,257	BERKSHIRE.			
Wilbraham	2,035	Pittsfield	3,570		37,825
		Sheffield	2,392		
	31,640	Egremont	889		

COUNTIES.	MALES.	FEM.	COL.	TOTAL.	COUNTIES.	MALES.	FEM.	COL.	TOTAL.
Plymouth	20,905	21,678	410	42,993	Dukes	1,702	1,768	48	3,518
Suffolk	28,586	31,693	1883	62,162	Nantucket	3,339	3,584	279	7,202
Essex	39,431	42,929	527	82,887	Worcester	41,545	42,449	371	84,365
Middlesex	38,107	39,348	513	77,968	Hampshire	14,990	14,995	225	30,210
Norfolk	20,436	21,296	169	41,901	Hampden	15,288	16,003	849	31,640
Bristol	23,366	25,178	930	49,474	Franklin	14,447	14,765	132	29,344
Barnstable	13,997	14,363	165	28,525	Berkshire	18,810	18,510	1005	37,825

294,449 Males; 308,553 Females; 7006 Colored; Total, 610,014.

## CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS FOR 1855.

*Alphabetically arranged by Towns and Counties. — Carefully compiled from accurate data, December, 1855.*

BARNSTABLE CO.		Tyringham	710	Haverhill	7,932
Barnstable	4,996	Washington	1,068	Ipswich	3,416
Brewster	1,525	W. Stockbridge	1,736	Lawrence (city)	16,114
Chatham	2,560	Williamstown	2,529	Lynn (city)	15,703
Dennis	3,497	Windsor	905	Lynnfield	884
Eastham	808	BRISTOL CO.		Manchester	1,878
Falmouth	2,613	Attleborough	5,451	Marblehead	6,933
Harwich	3,699	Berkeley	924	Methuen	2,584
Orleans	1,754	Dartmouth	3,658	Middleton	880
Provincetown	3,096	Dighton	1,729	Nahant	270
Sandwich	4,495	Easton	2,748	Newbury	1,484
Truro	1,917	Fairhaven	4,693	Newburyport (cit)	13,380
Wellfleet	2,325	Fall River (city)	12,680	North Andover	2,228
Yarmouth	2,592	Freetown	1,585	Rockport	3,515
BERKSHIRE CO.		Mansfield	2,119	Rowley	1,215
Adams	6,980	N. Bedford (city)	20,389	Salem (city)	20,934
Alford	526	Norton	1,894	Saugus	1,789
Becket	1,472	Pawtucket	4,132	South Danvers	5,431
Cheshire	1,532	Raynham	1,634	Swampscot	1,335
Clarksburg	424	Rehoboth	2,107	Topsfield	1,239
Dalton	1,064	Seekonk	2,304	Wenham	1,073
Egremont	992	Somerset	1,339	W. Newbury	2,098
Florida	612	Swansey	1,467	FRANKLIN CO.	
Gt. Barrington	3,449	Taunton (city)	13,750	Ashfield	1,342
Hancock	848	Westport	2,822	Bernardston	908
Hinsdale	1,361	DUKES CO.		Buckland	1,609
Lanesborough	1,235	Chilmark	676	Charlemont	1,113
Lee	4,226	Edgartown	1,827	Coleraine	1,604
Lenox	1,921	Tisbury	1,898	Conway	1,784
Monterey	823	ESSEX CO.		Deerfield	2,776
Mt. Washington	344	Amesbury	3,585	Erving	471
New Ashford	195	Andover	4,840	Gill	732
New Marlboro'	1,647	Beverly	5,944	Greenfield	2,955
Otis	1,018	Boxford	996	Hawley	774
Peru	487	Bradford	1,372	Heath	743
Pittsfield	6,501	Danvers	4,008	Leverett	983
Richmond	970	Essex	1,668	Leyden	653
Sandisfield	1,615	Georgetown	2,042	Monroe	217
Savoy	919	Gloucester	8,800	Montague	1,509
Sheffield	2,624	Groveland	1,367	New Salem	1,221
Stockbridge	2,058	Hamilton	907	Northfield	1,952

Orange	1,753	Southampton	1,156	Wayland	1,170
Rowe	601	Ware	3,498	W. Cambridge	2,670
Shelburne	1,401	Westhampton	670	Westford	1,586
Shutesbury	943	Williamsburg	1,831	Weston	1,206
Sunderland	839	Worthington	1,112	Wilmington	958
Warwick	1,002	MIDDLESEX CO.		Winchester	1,801
Wendell	738	Acton	1,680	Woburn	5,450
Whately	1,053	Ashby	1,176	NANTUCKET CO.	
HAMPDEN CO.		Ashland	1,287	Nantucket	8,064
Agawam	1,563	Bedford	819	NORFOLK CO.	
Blandford	1,271	Billerica	1,772	Bellingham	1,413
Brimfield	1,342	Boxborough	414	Braintree	3,472
Chester	1,255	Brighton	2,894	Brookline	3,740
Chicopee	7,581	Burlington	565	Canton	3,115
Granville	1,316	Cambridge (city)	20,473	Cohasset	1,924
Holland	393	Carlisle	630	Dedham	5,440
Holyoke	4,639	Charlestown (cit.)	21,742	Dorchester	8,363
Longmeadow	1,348	Chelmsford	2,140	Dover	747
Ludlow	1,191	Concord	2,250	Foxborough	2,570
Monson	2,942	Dracut	1,974	Franklin	2,045
Montgomery	413	Dunstable	533	Medfield	985
Palmer	4,012	Frammingham	4,670	Medway	3,230
Russell	677	Groton	2,745	Milton	2,656
Southwick	1,129	Holliston	2,894	Needham	2,401
Springfield (city)	13,780	Hopkinton	3,934	Quincy	6,500
Tolland	608	Lexington	2,549	Randolph	5,529
Wales	713	Lincoln	721	Roxbury (city)	18,699
Westfield	4,575	Littleton	988	Sharon	1,331
W. Springfield	2,090	Lowell (city)	37,553	Stoughton	4,370
Wilbraham	2,037	Malden	4,592	Walpole	1,935
HAMPSHIRE CO.		Marlborough	4,288	W. Roxbury	4,813
Amherst	2,937	Medford	4,605	Weymouth	6,530
Belchertown	2,697	Melrose	1,976	Wrentham	3,241
Chesterfield	960	Natick	4,138	PLYMOUTH CO.	
Cummington	1,004	North Reading	1,050	Abington	6,927
Easthampton	1,396	Pepperell	1,764	Bridgewater	3,363
Enfield	1,033	Reading	2,522	Carver	1,211
Goshen	471	Sherborn	1,071	Duxbury	2,622
Granby	964	Shirley	1,479	E. Bridgewater	2,935
Greenwich	803	Somerville	5,806	Halifax	788
Hadley	1,928	South Reading	2,668	Hanover	1,680
Hatfield	1,162	Stoneham	2,518	Hanson	1,231
Huntington	1,172	Stow	1,485	Hingham	4,256
Middlefield	677	Sudbury	1,673	Hull	292
Northampton	5,819	Tewksbury	1,722	Kingston	1,571
Pelham	747	Townsend	2,096	Lakeville	1,188
Plainfield	653	Tyngsborough	714	Marion	980
Prescott	643	Waltham	6,049	Marshfield	1,876
South Hadley	2,160	Watertown	3,493	Middleborough	4,324

N. Bridgewater	5,508	Clinton	3,644	Petersham	1,553
Pembroke	1,500	Dana	824	Phillipston	799
Plymouth	6,486	Douglas	2,320	Princeton	1,317
Plympton	1,000	Dudley	1,520	Royalston	1,469
Rochester	3,048	Fitchburg	6,442	Rutland	1,101
Scituate	2,271	Gardner	2,183	Shrewsbury	1,636
South Scituate	1,816	Grafton	4,409	Southborough	1,604
Wareham	3,246	Hardwick	1,535	Southbridge	3,429
W. Bridgewater	1,734	Harvard	1,532	Spencer	2,527
SUFFOLK CO.		Holden	2,114	Sterling	1,838
Boston (city)	160,508	Hubbardston	1,744	Sturbridge	2,187
Chelsea	10,151	Lancaster	1,725	Sutton	2,718
North Chelsea	793	Leicester	2,589	Templeton	2,618
Winthrop	366	Leominster	3,202	Upton	2,036
WORCESTER CO.		Lunenburg	1,225	Uxbridge	3,068
Ashburnham	2,211	Mendon	1,382	Warren	1,793
Athol	2,395	Milford	7,488	Webster	2,727
Auburn	885	Millbury	3,286	Westborough	2,478
Barre	2,781	New Braintree	776	W. Boylston	2,308
Berlin	978	Northborough	1,602	W. Brookfield	1,374
Blackstone	5,353	Northbridge	2,104	Westminster	1,980
Bolton	1,258	N. Brookfield	2,307	Winchendon	2,747
Boylston	835	Oakham	1,061	Worcester (city)	22,284
Brookfield	2,007	Oxford	2,808		
Charlton	2,051	Paxton	796		

## RECAPITULATION BY COUNTIES.

Barnstable	35,877	Franklin	31,636	Norfolk	95,049
Berkshire	52,791	Hampden	54,875	Plymouth	61,853
Bristol	87,425	Hampshire	35,493	Suffolk	171,818
Dukes	4,401	Middlesex	186,953	Worcester	148,963
Essex	147,844	Nantucket	8,064		
				Total,	1,123,042

## QUESTIONS IN REVIEW.

---

How long and how wide is Massachusetts ?

Is the length of Massachusetts north and south, or east and west ?

Which way is the width of Massachusetts ?

In what part of Massachusetts is its greatest width ?

On what side is its greatest length ?

How much is its greatest length ?

How much is its greatest width ?

How is Massachusetts bounded ?

Into how many counties is it divided ?

Tell how each county is bounded, beginning with the most easterly.

How is Barnstable county bounded ?

How is Nantucket ? Duke's ? Plymouth ? Bristol ? Norfolk ? Suffolk ?

Essex ? Middlesex ? Worcester ? Hampden ? Hampshire ? Franklin ?

Berkshire ?

In order to tell these boundaries, look at the map.

What are the two largest rivers in Massachusetts ?

Which is the largest of the two ?

In what part of the State is the Merrimack ? In what part is the Connecticut ? Which way does the Merrimack run in Massachusetts ? Which way

does the Connecticut run ? Which way does Concord river run ? Nashua ?

Charles ? Taunton river ? Blackstone ? Chicopee ? Miller's river ? Deerfield river ? Westfield river ? Housatonic ? Hoosick ?

To tell which way the rivers run, look at the map.

Which is the highest mountain in the State ? Where is it ? How high is it ?

Where is Saddle Mountain ? Where is Mount Tom ? Mount Holyoke ?

Mount Toby ? Which of them are east of Connecticut river ? What is said of their height ?

Which way is Wachuset from Boston ?

- Which way are Mount Tom, Mount Holyoke, and Mount Toby, from Boston ?  
 Which way is Saddle Mountain from Mount Holyoke ?  
 Which way is each of these mountains from the place you are in ?  
 What county is Boston in ?  
 Which way is Boston from the town you are in ?  
 Which way is Nantucket from Boston ?  
 Which way is Gloucester from Boston ?  
 Which way is Taunton ? Haverhill ? Dedham ? Salem ? Concord ?  
 Which way is Dedham from Worcester ?  
 Which way are Plymouth and Barnstable from Dedham ?  
 Which way is Provincetown from Boston ? From Barnstable ?  
 Which way is Martha's Vineyard from Nantucket ? Which way is it from Boston ?  
 Which way is it from Boston to Worcester ? From Worcester to Greenfield ?  
 From Greenfield to Springfield ? From Springfield to Lenox ? From Lenox to Williamstown ?  
 Which way is it from the town you are in to each of these towns ?
- 

The following questions must be answered by studying the number of people in the towns and counties. It will be best for the child to read the answers to the teacher, before attempting to commit them to memory :

- How many people in the town you live in ?  
 How many in the county ? Which is the smallest town in your county ? How many people has it ?  
 Which is the largest town in your county ? How many people ?  
 Which is the smallest town in the State ? How many people ?  
 Give the name of the largest town in each of the counties, with its number of people. How many people in Chelsea ?  
 What towns in Essex county have each less than one thousand people ?  
 What towns in Middlesex county have each less than one thousand people ?  
 What in Plymouth county ? In Norfolk county ? In Bristol county ? In Barnstable county ? In Duke's county ? In Worcester county ? In Hampshire county ? In Hampden county ? In Franklin county ? In Berkshire county ?  
 What towns in the several counties have each over two thousand people ?  
 What towns in the State have each over four thousand people ?  
 Which county has the fewest people ?

How many people has it ? Which has the greatest number of people ?  
How many people has it ?  
How many people in each of the counties ?  
How many colored people in Massachusetts ?  
What is the whole number of people ?  
When was this number ascertained ?

THE END.





BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



**3 9999 06561 390 1**

Page Committee

1

—

# NEW AND BEAUTIFUL BOOKS FOR CHILDREN,

With Illustrations by Fillings.

A BOOK FOR MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN. By Hildreth. With numerous illustrations .....	38
HENRY DAY'S STORY BOOK. By Mrs. Phelps .....	50
HENRY DAY LEARNING TO OBEY BIBLE COMMANDS. By Mrs. Phelps .....	50
MARY DAY'S STORY BOOK. By Mrs. Phelps .....	50
MARY DAY FORMING GOOD HABITS. By Mrs. Phelps .....	50
THE SUNBEAM. By Miss Latham .....	50
SIMILITUDES FROM THE OCEAN AND THE PRAIRIE. By Lucy Larcom .....	50
FIRST LESSONS IN GENTLENESS AND TRUTH. By Mrs. Stone .....	38
SABBATH TALKS WITH THE LITTLE CHILDREN ABOUT JESUS. By Mrs. S. G. Ashton .....	38
SABBATH TALKS WITH THE CHILDREN ABOUT THE PSALMS OF DAVID. By Mrs. S. G. Ashton .....	38

## MUSIC BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL; a Complete Collection of Hymns and Tunes for Sabbath Schools, Families, and Social Gatherings. By Wm. Williams .....	25
SABBATH SCHOOL CONCERT HYMNS. A new and much ad- mired book. By Hodges Reed .....	25
BAKER'S SCHOOL MUSIC BOOK; a Collection of Songs, Chants, and Hymns. Containing a Complete System of Elementary Instru- ction in Principles of Music Notation. By B. F. Baker .....	38
ORATORIO OF OUR SAVIOR. Written for Children. The Po- ems and Music both Original. By Wm. Williams .....	25